



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

March 19, 2025

Number 60

KIDS DNOW 2025
ONE
Ephesians 4:4-6
**WORSHIP LEADER
& SPEAKER:
CHRIS LAYTON**
SATURDAY, MARCH 22
9AM-2PM • 1ST-5TH GRADE
NESHOPA BAPTIST CENTER

CHILDREN & YOUTH
ASSOCIATIONAL
Bible Drill
SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH
1:30 PM • NESHOPA BAPTIST CENTER



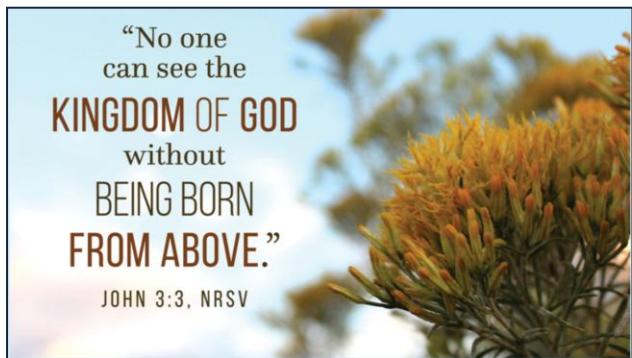
Church Family,

Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." - John 3:3

Can you imagine what was going through Nicodemus' mind when Jesus told him that one had to be born again to go to heaven? Up until this point, Nicodemus had lived a devout life. As a Pharisee, Nicodemus would have strictly held to the Old Testament Law and rituals. I am sure he would've been a model citizen, someone to look up to in the community. Also, his attitude in coming to Jesus leads me to believe he was humble.

When Nicodemus came to Jesus and asked about who He was, I doubt he expected to hear Jesus tell him to be *born again*. Christ does not call us to be model citizens or hold to a set of rules. Christ calls us to be reborn. There is a glaring difference between following a set of rules and being reborn. The lifestyle a Nicodemus is focused on doing and achieving a standard, and the result is eternal separation. The lifestyle of someone reborn is founded on their belief and trust in Christ. There is present freedom and eternal salvation for the reborn person.

In Christ,
Evan



OPPORTUNITIES

PRESCHOOL EXTENDED SESSION

March 23

Younger: Patti Robey & Betsy Melton
Older: Tyler & Taylor Nicholson

March 30

Younger: Chad & Emily Crosswhite
Older: Josh & Lindsay Lewis

DEACON OF THE WEEK

March 23

11 am Service – Michael Duke

March 30

11 am Service – Caleb Jay

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary this Sunday are in memory of Wyatt Vowell for his 9th birthday. They are given by his grandparents, Bill and Janice Griffin.



Foyer Flowers

The flowers in the foyer this Sunday are in celebration of Sonny Hamilton's first birthday. They are given by his parents, Webb and Mallory Hamilton.

FBC 175TH ANNIVERSARY

First Baptist Church will celebrate our 175th Anniversary Sunday, May 4, 2025. As a part of the celebration, we will display a collection of articles, pictures and more from years past. If you would like to loan us pictures of weddings in our sanctuary, Sunday school pictures or any memories of First Baptist Church, please bring them to the church office.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

SERVED 4:45-5:45 PM



MENU FOR MARCH 26

Tacos
Corn
Mexican Rice
Fruit & Dessert
Kids Menu: Same

Servers: Sue Keen, Sandi Lewis

Cleanup: Herman Alford, Ashley Peebles

Money Table: Nancy Williams

Growing up Cole

First let me start this by saying, if your phone rings late at night and it's Max Loper, you may want to think before answering.

About 20 years ago or more, it was late one night and my phone rang. No I didn't have caller ID. It was Max Loper. He said he needed me to ride with him, Bill Gilley and a young woman who was in labor to Starkville. Sure, why not, the only thing I was doing was sleeping. So I slipped out of my house without my husband even knowing and met the crew outside.

This young, soon to be mother, was in the back seat and I climbed in with her. Max was our fearless driver. Bill was the keeper of timed contractions and I was her distraction. If you could put this into comedy we were the 3 stooges. Max being our leader was Moe, Bill was Larry and I was Curly (let's face it the curly didn't apply to either one of the guys).

This sweet young lady knew the guys in our posse from FAITH visits. They had met her, formed a Christian relationship with her and befriended her. She was single, alone and in labor so she called on her Christian friends.

We visited in the back seat. She was kind and caring. She was so excited about the birth of her child. When contractions would start, I put Bill on the clock. He timed them to let me know how far along she might be. I'll never forget her looking at me and asking me how long I had been a NURSE! All right, this is one of those moments when you tell her you own a radio station and can't stand the sight of blood, or tell her I've delivered over 500 babies. I went with the first. Her eyes grew big like saucers. She was with Moe and Larry in the front seat and someone who could give a live report from the scene. I reassured her that I had delivered two children and I knew that we were going to make it to Starkville in plenty of time. Her contractions were 10 minutes apart.

We arrived in plenty of time. She gave birth the next day. Her dad was able to make it in time. I see her and her son from time to time. She always tells him I was with her along with Moe and Larry when she went into labor.

Thank you Max for calling me. Randy never knew I left the house. I witnessed how important it is to reach out to those in need. It was a great night, but I have caller ID now!

See you Sunday,
Laura



SENIOR ADULT
Revival
MARCH 31 - APRIL 2
10 AM - NESHOPA BAPTIST CENTER
GUEST EVANGELIST: BRO. GENE DOUGLAS
WORSHIP LEADER: BRO. WILLIAM SMITH

NEW MEMBERS CLASS
APRIL 2-23, 2025
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 5:45-6:15 PM
IN THE CHURCH PARLOR ON FLOOR 2A

The Road to Calvary
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MUSIC MINISTRY
SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH · 11 AM

B.A.L.L. OUTING
FRENCH CAMP
THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH
LEAVE FBC 8:15 AM
RETURN BY 3:30 PM
ALL SENIOR ADULTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. BRING MONEY FOR LUNCH.

WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

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.

MONDAY, MARCH 24

Revive Us Again Exercise Class.....	8:30 a.m.
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

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.
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.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

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

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.
Association Bible Drill (Baptist Center).....	1:30 p.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
Tiffany 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

March 16, 2025

Budget	\$18,161.10
175 th Anniversary	\$100.00
Music and Choir.....	\$10.00
Office Refund.....	\$1.00
Children's Camp	\$150.00
Mother/Daughter	\$440.00
Children's DNow	\$20.00
Bereavement.....	\$27.00
Annie Armstrong.....	\$1,700.00
Annie Armstrong Given to Date	\$3,660.00
Budget Offering Given to Date	\$715,839.83
Over Budget	\$102,245.94

WEEKLY BUDGET REQUIREMENT:	\$21,408.68
BUDGET AMT. RECEIVED 03/16/25:	\$18,161.10

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

March 16, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	35	25
Children	31	20
Youth	25	9
Adults	271	123
Total	362	177

SUNDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUPS

March 16, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	36	16
Children	35	21
Youth	34	17
Adults	105	87
Total	240	141