

## Last Sunday's Record - April 12, 2020

Offering: \$ 15,289.79

### January 1, 2020

Requirements: \$ 392,383.05

Receipts: \$ 431,514.55

## Deacon of the Week

4/19 - Joey Mabry                      4/26 - Leslie Dunn  
5/3 - Walter Rogers, Sr.            5/10 - Jet Scarbrough  
5/17 - Jim Williamson            5/24 - John Anderson, Sr.  
5/31 - Tommy Cason

## Sermon for April 19

*"Dress Code"*

*Colossians 3:12-17*

## CONTINUING PRAYER NEEDS

Jim Patton (1/5/20) friend of Chris Lauderdale  
Margaret Roberson (1/8/20) Joe Ross' sister  
Julia Joyce Horn (1/8/20) Joyce Frank's granddaughter  
Susan Dunn (1/9/20)  
Dottie Schachte (1/9/20) friend of Arlene Campbell  
Sandra Johnson (1/19/20) friend of Sandra Dennis  
Hays Monsour (1/20/20)  
Emily Price (7/20/20)  
Dorothy and Harry Little (1/20/20)  
Les and Liz Prystup (1/20/20)  
Rebecca King (1/20/20)  
Lisa and Wayne Powell (1/20/20)  
Ginger Richardson (1/22/20)  
Carole Lewis (1/22/20)  
Pat Dalferes (1/26./20) friend of Debi Perkins  
Freddie Poitevent (1/28/20)  
Robert and Coweela George (1/28/20)  
Debra Porter's sister and brother-in-law  
Jim and Gloria Addison (1/28/20)  
Ken Smith (1/28/20) Linda Smith's brother  
The Cobb Family  
Kelly Richardson (1/28/20)  
Margaret Harrison (1/28/20)  
Michelle Spedero (1/28/20) Diane Davison's daughter

Leonard Jones Pam Maloney's father  
Mavis Slayton (10/11/19) friend of J.B. and Teresa Griffith  
Donna Rainey (10/22/19) Gaile Culpepper's cousin  
Joseph Horn (10/29/10) Gaines Harrell's nephew  
Jack Follis (10/29/19)  
Cindy Howell (1/27/20) Molly Ellis' niece  
Danny Hill (2/3/20) friend of Ward Calhoun, Jr.  
Maude Grant (2/3/20) Richard Grant's mother (ESL)  
Antonia Garza (2/9/20) friend of Lisa Powell  
Andrea Powell (2/11/20) friend of the VanHorns  
Ellen Rogers (2/12/20)  
Candy Meyers (2/12/20) Marilyn Green's niece  
Jaeger Cumberland (2/17/20) Dorothy Little's great grandson  
Family of Lynn Combest (2/17/20)  
Cary Vaughn (2/23/20)  
David Monsour (2/24/20) friend of Leonard Cobb  
Louise Ellis (3/1/20) John Ellis' mother  
Tony Sansone (3/1/20)  
DeRina Usher (3/1/20) Judy Pettey's friend  
Maudie Newsome (3/1/20)  
Mel Bounds (3/1/20)  
Paulette Hopkins (3/1/20) David Hopkins' mother  
Barbara Cleveland (3/10/20) Ingrid Price's friend  
Melba Wesson (3/13/20) Margaret Harrison's friend  
Judge Charles Smith (3/16/20) Friend of Leonard Cobb  
Gray Spencer 3/20/20) Pam Gray's cousin's son  
Dee Negrete (3/20/20) Joe and Betty Ross' daughter  
Emily Olander (3/28/20) Gary and Sally Wilkinson's niece  
Pete and Julie Bertrand (3/31/20) Albert Alston's friend  
Brook Davis (3/31/20) Jennifer Williams' husband's cousin  
Pete Denton (4/1/20) Ray Denton/Cathy Carpenter's father  
Raymon Leake (4/1/20)  
Michelle Weatherford (4/8/20) friend of Shea Leake  
Jim Harris (4/8/20) Tammy Matthews' father

## NEW PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK

Benny Harrison (4/15/20)  
Debbie Adams (4/15/20) Caitlin Braud's mother  
Tim Thesman (4/15/20) Carol Wink's brother

*Dr. Nathan VanHorn, Pastor*  
*Rev. David Bishop, Associate Pastor for Music*  
*Zach DePriest, Minister of Youth    Caitlin Braud, Director of Children's Ministries*  
*Dr. Raymon Leake, Pastor Emeritus*  
*Rev. David McCubbin, Associate Pastor Emeritus*  
701 26th Avenue Meridian, MS 39301 601.484.4600 [www.fbcmeridian.org](http://www.fbcmeridian.org)

# THE MESSENGER



FBCM

First Baptist Church  
Meridian

April 19, 2020

Volume 92, Number 16

**"THEREFORE, AS  
GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE,  
*holy and dearly loved,*  
CLOTHE YOURSELVES  
WITH COMPASSION,  
*kindness, humility,  
gentleness and patience."*  
COLOSSIANS 3:12 NIV**

## Church Family,

I have loved watching movies for as long as I can remember. I even took a course on film in college. One of the interesting minutiae we discussed was the impact of digital media on making and watching films. In older films, movies of substantial scope—especially broad-sweeping epics like *Ben Hur*, *Patton*, or *Gone with the Wind*—were produced on multiple reels of film to accommodate their vast size in a pre-digital age. This was standard practice even through most of the 1990s. For example, James Cameron's *Titanic*, which was released on VHS in September of 1998, was on two VHS cassettes. By necessity, audiences would experience a brief intermission as the film reel or video cassette was changed in the movie theater or at home, respectively. The intermission, in turn, functioned as *more than a restroom break*. Mentally, intermissions allowed audiences to reflect on what they had seen so far and to build anticipation for what was coming next. An intermission can be much more than an interruption.

In our digital age, in which massive amounts of information can be stored on tiny media devices, intermissions are exceptionally rare outside of live theatrical performances. Like many areas of life, *we have cut out the waiting*. And now we are in a period of waiting—an intermission—and many of us have no idea what to do with ourselves. We feel cooped up, stir crazy, restless. But the intermission is more than a restroom break, folks—or, at least, *it can be*.

Isaiah 40 is a word of hope to the people of Israel in the midst of the Babylonian exile. They are waiting for restoration and return to home (i.e., to normalcy). Utilizing imagery from the first exodus, God promises to bring his people back home through the wilderness—a new Exodus! And how

does this glorious promise conclude? Isaiah 40:31 says, “But those who WAIT (from the Hebrew *khavah*, sometimes translated “hope” or “trust,” but which carries a sense of longing or anticipation) on the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. They will run and not be weary. They will walk and not be faint.”

There are important periods of waiting throughout the story of God's people: between conception and delivery; between Egypt and the Promised Land; between exile and return; between the Old Testament and the New; between salvation and glorification, etc. The God who spoke creation into being instantaneously rarely cuts out the waiting *because He knows that intermissions are more than a restroom break*. The coronavirus will not have the last word. But even as we do what we can and lament what we cannot, I pray that we won't waste this intermission. I pray that—just like the “good old days” of film on VHS—this would be a period of reflection and anticipation for what's coming next. *Don't waste the waiting, church. Don't waste the waiting.*

**F260 WEEK 17 READING** beginning 4/19/20  
Monday - 2 Samuel 1, 2:1-7  
Tuesday - 2 Samuel 3:1, 5, Psalms 23  
Wednesday - 2 Samuel 6-7  
Thursday—Psalm 18, 2 Samuel 9  
Friday - 2 Samuel 11-12  
Memory Verses: Psalm 23:1-3, Psalm 51:10-13

**Thank you to all the faithful givers of FBC!**  
As a reminder, you can mail your offering to  
**701 26th Avenue, Meridian, MS 39301,**  
or give online through our **ShelbyNext app** or  
through our website ([www.fbcmeridian.org](http://www.fbcmeridian.org)).

## Memorials...

### Benevolence Fund

In memory of:

Lynn Combest Sarah Johnston  
Anne Furse (*Susan Hill's sister*)

### Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Julia Scarbrough Lynn Combest  
Anne Furse

Paul Brown (*Pam Chatbam's father*)

Mary Gipson

(*Hoot and Doris Gipson's daughter-in-law*)

Sarah Ullrich (*Nathan VanHorn's grandmother*)

### Missions and Ministry

In memory of: Lionel Ellis (*John Ellis' father*)

## MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

Dennis Rivera is a North American missionary in New England. He is one of the lead pastors of City Light Church in Worcester, Massachusetts. Eight of the top ten post-Christian cities in America are in New England. So, in an environment where God isn't even in the conversation, Dennis and his co-workers deal with addiction, homelessness, single parent homes, and many other problems. A pastor of another new church plant told Dennis that they weren't yet at the point to celebrate conversions, instead they were happy to be able to celebrate conversations. Through the years, people in New England have heard a lot of talk about Christianity, but haven't seen it in practice. A friend recently told Dennis, “Catholics taught me how to hate religion, and Baptists taught me to hate God.” One of the challenges of a new church plant like City Light is figuring out how to disciple existing believers and evangelize others. Their church has a mixture of mature believers, new believers, and some seekers who aren't yet saved. Dennis asks for us to pray for clear direction for the church planting team of City Light Church.

It's all  
about the  
gospel!