

## Last Sunday's Record - April 19, 2020

Offering: \$19,418.26

### January 1, 2020

Requirements: \$ 418,541.92

Receipts: \$ 450,952.81

## Deacon of the Week

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 26

**"Combat Gear"**

**Ephesians 6:10-19**

## **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)

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

Benny and Margaret Harrison (4/15/20)

Debbie Adams (4/15/20) Caitlin Braud's mother

Tim Thesman (4/15/20) Carol Wink's brother

### NEW PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK

Dancy Sykes (4/20/20)

JoAnn Braddock (4/21/20)

*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



First Baptist Church  
Meridian

April 19, 2020

Volume 92, Number 16



*Tricia Goyer.com*

## Church Family,

Allow me to express a brief word of thanks: FBC Meridian is the most encouraging church family I have been privileged to serve. Yesterday, I received an call from one of our folks. They called simply to offer a word of encouragement and let me know they were praying for my family, for our staff, and for the ministry of our church during this time.

The call made me think of Paul and his letter to the Ephesians. In Ephesians 4:29, Paul says, “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may give grace to those who listen.” In my experience, churches focus primarily on the first half of the verse at the expense of the second half. We teach our children not to be crass, crude, or profane in speech. But when Paul fleshes out his Spirit-centered solution for unwholesome speech, he focuses *less* on what words we use than on what our words do. Paul insists that the speech of believers should serve the purpose of “building others up according to their needs.”

I worked as manual labor for a few contractors in high school. I was not trusted to hammer the nails, measure or cut boards, or anything that required real skill; however, I was readily trusted to swing a sledgehammer repeatedly at a wall that needed to come down for the renovation at hand. Why? Because tearing things down requires far less skill and effort than building up something new. Criticizing is easier than constructing. Encouragement is vital.

Interestingly, in Acts 9:26-28, Paul receives initial acceptance from the Jerusalem disciples (whom he once persecuted...) because a Levite from Cyprus named Joseph—better known to us as *Barnabas*, meaning the “Son of Encouragement”—vouches for him, giving Paul a “foot in the door” by encouraging when others might doubt or criticize. Because of Barnabas, Paul “moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord” (Acts 9:28). In Acts 11:25-26, Barnabas provides the impetus for involving Paul in the church at Antioch. Think about it: the church at Antioch was formed as

result of Christians scattering from Jerusalem after the martyrdom of Stephen, in which Paul was involved (Acts 8:1-3, 11:19-20); yet, Barnabas not only seeks out Paul to serve in that church; he is also sent out with Paul (Acts 11:27-30 and 13:1-3) as a missionary from that congregation. After commenting on the year-long teaching ministry of Paul and Barnabas, Luke notes, “The disciples were first called ‘Christians at Antioch’” (Acts 11:26). **Simply stated, the body of Christ was built up because Barnabas built up Paul.**

We all know Paul’s reputation. He was an undeniable force in the early Church. He preached Christ boldly, articulated the Gospel profoundly, and planted churches prolifically. Thirteen letters in the New Testament are attributed to him. Barnabas, however, usually is not considered a “major player” in the cause of Christ. **But I am increasingly convinced that you don’t get a guy like Paul without the ministry of a guy like Barnabas.**

Everyone needs encouragement. My prayer for our church today is that, like Barnabas, our speech would patiently, skillfully build upon the person and work of Christ in the lives of others. I challenge you to do your part by seeking out someone to encourage. Who knows how God might use your encouragements to build His Kingdom? God does. *Blessings,  
Nathan Van Horn*

### 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)).

### Congratulations to...

Scott and Tana Causey  
on the birth of their daughter, Sollis Maryn Causey.  
Dick Simmons and Melinda Causey  
are the proud grandparents.



Jason and Catherine Harrell  
on the birth of their son, Timothy James Harrell.  
Gaines and Carolyn Harrell are the proud grandparents.

## Sympathies to...

Buddy and Gina Laughlin,  
Emily Laughlin Gilbert, Carley Gilbert and family  
in the death of Tom Gilbert.

## Memorials...

### Missions and Ministry

In memory of: Lionel Ellis (*John Ellis’ father*)  
Julia Scarbrough Lynn Combest Pud Merrell  
Mary Gipson (*Hoot and Doris Gipson’s daughter-in-law*)  
Anne Furse (*Susan Hill’s sister*)  
Sarah Ullrich (*Nathan VanHorn’s grandmother*)

### Benevolence

In memory of: Anne Furse

**F260 WEEK 18 READING** beginning 4/26/20

Monday - Psalm 51

Tuesday - 2 Samuel 14, Psalm 24

Wednesday - Psalms 1, 19

Thursday—Psalms 103, 119:1-48

Friday - Psalms 119:49-128

Memory Verses: Psalm 1:1-7, Psalm 119:7-11

## MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

In 2017, Max Lucado wrote the book *Anxious For Nothing - Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*. As Lucado begins Chapter 1, he says that anxiety and fear are cousins, but not twins. *Fear* sees a threat. *Anxiety* imagines one. He discusses the word *anxious*. It is a hybrid of *angst* and *xious*. *Angst* is a feeling of unease. *Xious* is the sound he makes, says Lucado, on the tenth step of a flight of stairs when he’s running out of breath. In Hawaii, the natives use the word *haola* which means “out of breath.” Is our present situation causing you to be anxious, to feel out of breath? In Philippians 4:6, Paul wrote “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

It's all  
about the  
gospel