

Last Sunday's Record - July 12, 2020

Offering: \$27,384.25

January 1, 2020

Requirements: \$732,448.36

Receipts: \$717,116.65

Deacon of the Week

7/19 - Reed Scarbrough 7/26 - Brian Sellers
8/2 - Ronnie Smith 8/9 - Allan Tolleson
8/16 - Gary Wilkinson 8/23 - John Culpepper
8/30 - Mark Williams

Sermon for July 19

"Heavenly Minded, Earthly Good"

Matthew 6:9-13

CONTINUING PRAYER NEEDS

Raymon Leake (4/1/20)
Michelle Weatherford (4/8/20) friend of Shea Leake
Jim Harris (4/8/20) Tammy Matthews' father
Tim Thesman (4/15/20) Carol Wink's brother
JoAnn Braddock (4/21/20)
Richard Lewis (4/27/20) Micki Harrison's father
Ted Rayborn (5/30/20) Tommy Allen's brother-in-law
Maria Allen (5/30/20) Tommy Allen's niece
Candy Cornish (5/7/20) Lorie Anderson's friend
Family of Margaret Harrison (5/18/20)
Jim Singley (5/18/20)
Margaret Roberson (5/21/20) Joe Ross' sister
Sandra Johnson (5/21/20) friend of Sandra Dennis
Hays Monsour (5/21/20)
Emily Price (5/21/20)
Dorothy and Harry Little (5/21/20)
Les and Liz Prystup (5/21/20)
Rebecca King (5/21/20)
Lisa and Wayne Powell (5/21/20)
Carole Lewis (5/21/20)
Freddie Poitevent (5/21/20)
Robert and Coweela George (5/21/20)
Debra Porter's sister and brother-in-law
Jim and Gloria Addison (5/21/20)
Ken Smith (5/21/20) Linda Smith's brother
The Cobb Family
Leonard Jones (5/21/20) Pam Maloney's father

Kelly Richardson (5/21/20)
Michelle Spedero (5/21/20) Diane Davison's daughter
Donna Rainey (5/21/20) Gaile Culpepper's cousin
Jack Follis (5/21/20)
Charlie Jones (5/21/20) friend of Ginger Richardson
Lowry Rush (5/28/20) Jill Williams' father
Alan Akin (6/1/20)
Lorie Anderson (6/5/20)
Ginger Richardson (6/3/20)
Adam Foreman (6/10/20)
Frances Dickson (6/14/20)
Pat McCubbin (6/22/20)
Mike Covert (6/23/20)
David Webb (6/23/20)
Ellen Rogers (6/23/20)
Betty Lou Jones (7/2/20)
James Mann (7/6/20)
Neisha Alexander (7/6/20) friend of Gaile Culpepper
Matthew Stokley (7/6/20)
Debra Parker (7/6/20) former employee of FBC
Rev. Jerry Meggs (7/6/20)
Phil Kelly (7/7/20) friend of Ward Calhoun, Jr.
George Hayes (7/7/20) friend of Ward Calhoun, Jr.
Louise Ellis (7/7/20) John Ellis' mother
Tony Sansone (7/7/20)
Maudie Newsome (7/7/20)
Mel Bounds (7/7/20)
Paulette Hopkins (7/7/20) David Hopkins' mother
Judge Charles Smith (7/7/20) Friend of Leonard Cobb
Dee Negrete (7/7/20) Joe and Betty Ross' daughter
Pete and Julie Bertrand (7/71/20) Albert Alston's friend
NEW PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK
Geffery Swanson (7/9/2020) formerly of Meridian
Jim Singley (7/9/20) Louise Williamson's nephew
Frances White (7/15/20)
Nancy Ray (7/15/20)

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

THE MESSENGER



FBCM

First Baptist Church
Meridian

July 19, 2020

Volume 92, Number 28



Church Family,

For the past several Sundays, we have been progressing through the Lord's Prayer as found in Matthew 6:9-13. This past Sunday, we explored the most counterintuitive petition of the prayer: "Let your Kingdom come." Jesus, we think, *don't you mean "let us go to your kingdom"*? Yet, Jesus' prayer is not one seeking an escape to Heaven, but rather Heaven's intervention on earth. This is why Jesus continues: "Let your kingdom come; let your will be done *as in Heaven so also on the earth*."

On Tuesday nights, I have been reading and discussing C. S. Lewis's classic apologetic work, *Mere Christianity*, with some of our college students and young adults. During this week's gathering, one of the chapters we discussed centered on pride. Pride puffs up and inflates. Pride is competitive, looking out for its own interests and glory. Describing pride, Lewis said: "According to Christian teachers, the essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere fleabites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil. Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind." (*Mere Christianity*, 121-122)

Pride is a many-headed hydra desiring to harden us in a direction (and toward a destination) diametrically opposed to God—as Lewis calls it, "the complete anti-God state of mind." What does Lewis set forth as the remedial virtue opposite of pride? *Humility*. Humility serves. Humility lowers itself. Humility *comes down*.

Within his model prayer, Jesus' does not emphasize people going to God, but rather God coming to people. God is, after all, the God who walks in the garden to fellowship with Adam and Eve. He is the God who *comes down* Mt. Sinai to dwell in the tabernacle (Exodus 40; and later, the Temple in 2 Chronicles 7) while leading His people

DEACON'S BREAKFAST Sunday, July 19 8:00 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

through the wilderness. He is ultimately the God-*who comes down* to us in Jesus Christ (John 1). He is the God who, over and over again, *comes down to His people*. For God's Kingdom to come and His will to be done as in Heaven on Earth would require a KING able and willing to exercise the authority of Heaven on Earth to implement God's will (Matthew 28:18). What would that look like? It would look like the ministry of Jesus: our Lord, our Messiah, *our KING*.

In Philippians 2:5-8, Paul challenges the church to adopt this downward way: "Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited. Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross."

In a world that encourages us to build up as much as we can, Jesus teaches us to check the very foundation we build on. Jesus challenges us to seek not our own kingdom, but His. Jesus does not lead us in the rejection of a fallen world, but rather in the redemption of it. And, if we prayerfully seek this kingdom, we will gradually adopt the posture toward others that God adopted toward us: love, service, forgiveness, and—you guessed it—humility.

Blessings,

Nathan VanHorn



Congratulations to ...
Clint and Emily Dumaine on the birth of their daughter, Raelynn Elizabeth.
Steve and Cheryl Gressett are the proud grandparents and Betty Jackson is the proud great grandmother.

Sympathies to...

Ward and Connie Calhoun,
John and Daphne Calhoun and families
in the death of Ward Calhoun, Jr.

Melinda Causey and family
in the death of her mother, Marian Gulette.

Memorials...

Benevolence

In memory of: Jerry Heblon

(*Sberry Snowden's mother*)

Lisa McGee (*Bruce McGee's mother*)

H. L. "Pete" Denton

(*Ray Denton and Cathy Carpenter's father*)

Margaret Harrison Eleanore Catledge

Harvey Ray

Music Fund

In memory of: Ward Calhoun, Jr.

Jerry Heblon Jane Allison

Youth Fund

In memory of: Ward Calhoun, Jr.

F260 WEEK 30 READING beginning 7/19/20

Monday - Nehemiah 13

Tuesday - Malachi 1

Wednesday—Malachi 2

Thursday - Malachi 3

Friday - Malachi 4

Memory Verses: Psalm 51:7, Colossians 1:19-20

ABIDE Parents and Kids...
JUVIS
WHEN: Thursday, July 23
WHERE: FAMILY OMC @ FBC Meridian
6:00 to 7:30 p.m. COST: Free
Sign up for PIZZA (or bring your own dinner of choice) Dress to get wet & messy!
A current 2020 signed and notarized Medical Release Form is required for attendance on all trips!