

Last Sunday's Record—January 2, 2022

Offering: \$10,509.75
 Prepaid offering for 2022: \$45,805.01
 Sunday School: 160

January 1, 2022

Requirements: \$26,587.96
 Receipts: \$56,314.76
 Lottie Moon to date: \$45,666.50

END OF YEAR: 2021

Needs: \$1,377,000.00 Receipts: \$1,506,663.18

Deacon of the Week

January 9 - Leonard Cobb January 16 - Leslie Dunn
 January 23 - Landry Adkins
 January 30 - John Anderson Jr.

Deacon's Breakfast - January 30 (note change)

8:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Sermon for Sunday, January 9

"Through the Waters" Luke 3:21-22

Family Night Supper

resumes Wednesday, January 12.

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY - JANUARY 9

<u>Preschool Ext. Session</u> Clifford and Erika Holloway	<u>Launch</u> Bo and Kacie Bailey
<u>Worship Welcomers</u> Tommy and Marcia Brewer Joey and Melissa Mabry	<u>Greeters</u> Jena Sims Susan Hill Lydia Sanders Carolyn Hodgins
<u>Security Team 2</u> John Calhoun Steve Gressett Brad Henry Ben Webb	<u>Counting Committee</u> Neil Henry, Chairman Landry Adkins John Anderson Lee Rogers

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, January 9

9:15 - Sunday School
 10:30 - Morning Worship

MONDAY, January 10

12:00 - Missions Luncheon

TUESDAY, January 11

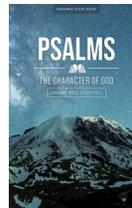
9:30 - Ladies' Bible Study/Laird

WEDNESDAY, January 12

4:30 - WMU Council Meeting
 5:00 - FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER
 YOUTH BELLS
 5:30 - YOUTH CHOIR
 Young Ringers
 6:00 - Preschool and Children's Choirs
 6:15 - Prayer Meeting and Bible Study
 6:30 - MISSIONS (G.A.s R.A.s, and Mission Friends)
 - YOUTH WORSHIP
 7:15 - Sanctuary Choir

FRIDAY, January 14

6:00 - G.I.F.T.



Make your plans to join us
Sunday, January 30
Winter Bible Study
and Fellowship Meal
 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Wayne VanHorn, facilitator
Psalms...The Character of God
 Childcare and Kid's Meal provided/Gym

USHERS FOR JANUARY

Tommy Allen, Bo Bailey, Will Carpenter, Adam Foreman, Brad Garrett, Benny Harrison, Michael Jones, Dave Little, Timothy Maloney, John Morgan Mims, Brian Sellers, Ronnie Smith, Allan Tolleson, Cary Vaughn and Leslie Williams

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
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THE MESSENGER

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MERIDIAN

JANUARY 9, 2022

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**RESUME
 THIS WEDNESDAY,
 JANUARY 12**

Family Night Supper
 Prayer Meeting and
 Bible Study
 (Fellowship Hall)

Preschool, Children, Youth
 and Sanctuary Choirs

Missions - G.A.s, R.A.s,
 and Mission Friends

Youth Worship



ABUNDANT LIFE

“I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

John 10:10

I read an article not long ago that is worth considering. A study at Johns Hopkins University concluded that churchgoers live longer. A large sampling of the population indicates that the annual death rate for weekly churchgoers is about 500 per 100,000. The annual rate per 100,000 of occasional churchgoers jumps to 900. This means that the death rate for non-churchgoers is nearly double that of their neighbors who attend regularly.

The study naturally could not delineate the reasons for these statistics, but the results should not be surprising. Folks who take time for church have learned to manage their schedules. They live and function in a more relaxed fashion. While not being totally free from anxiety, certainly churchgoers have access to a faith that provides trust and some lessening of daily tensions. The benefits of scripture and music give hope and confidence and endless other sources of support and nurture.

Of course, the reason for attending church is not to live longer, but to live better. Some people live long, but poorly. There are those who realize that the good life has depth, height, and breadth, as well as length. Jesus said it best, “I came that they might have life...” Sounds like a good deal to me!

David Bishop

Deacon Ordination

Sunday, January 23

4:00 p.m. - Deacon Council

6:00 p.m. - Ordination Worship Service and Reception

Deacon Candidates

Elliot Brewer Timothy Maloney
Sam McCorkle Walter Rogers, Jr.

“Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor those who serve me.”
John 12:26



**Please
pardon our
progress!**

**EXCITING CHANGES ARE
ON THEIR WAY...**

Beginning Sunday, January 9

Morning Worship Services will be held in the **Fellowship Hall** to allow renovation in our Sanctuary. Our service will continue to be broadcast through WTOK and available on Facebook and YouTube. *(You may access the Fellowship Hall through the stairwell off the Welcome Center or the elevator at the entrance to the Sanctuary.)*

Family Night Supper and Prayer Meeting will be held in the **Fellowship Hall**, as usual. *(We'll need help in setting this up after the services on Sunday - please see David to volunteer or just stay after church to help.)*

CHURCH FAMILY...*there are a LOT of moving parts to make all of this happen, from technology to logistics! We need your patience and, most of all, your PRAYERS, so that we can continue to be God's presence in our world. The renovations will certainly be worth the little inconveniences!*

See you Sunday!

Sympathies to...

Richard and Laura Abney,
Justin and Emily Anders and family
in the death of Laura's mother,
Virginia McCormick.

The Family and Friends of Doris Lummus.

Diane Wilson and family
in the death of her brother, Larry Rollison.

Liz Prystup and family
in the death of her husband, Les Prystup.

Memorials...

Lottie Moon

In memory of: Jim Sanders
Charles Braddock Hoot Gipson
Harry Little Henry Wilson
Margaret Harrison
Lucile and J.B. Hicks B.R. and Merle King
(Michael and Rebecca King's parents)
Ellen Rogers
Sarah Moore *(Karen Hicks' mother)*
Virginia McCormick *(Laura Abney's mother)*

Trinidad Ministry

Ellen Rogers

Benevolence

In memory of: Sonny Rush
Samuel McDonald Moore, Sr.
Ruby Meaders Moore
Hoot Gipson Henry Wilson
Peggy and Howard Lamar

Music Fund

In memory of: Lucile Hicks
Hoot Gipson Henry Wilson
Barbara McNeese
(Haley VanHorn's grandmother)
Robert George *(Debra Porter's brother-in-law)*
Donna Rainey *(Gaile Culpepper's cousin)*
Cassie Kauerz Virginia McCormick