

**Last Sunday's Record - June 26, 2022**

Sunday School: 163 Offering: \$16,341.50

**January 1, 2022**

Requirements: \$691,286.96

Receipts: \$669,919.50

**Deacon of the Week**

July 3 - Larry Roberts July 10 - Joey Mabry  
July 17 - Sam McCorkle July 24 - Jet Scarbrough  
July 31 - Elliot Brewer  
August 7 - Walter Rogers, Jr.  
August 14 - Timothy Maloney  
August 21 - Bobby Berg August 28 - James May

**Sermon for Sunday, July 3**

**"I Pledge Allegiance"**

**Daniel 6:1-23**

**Family Night Supper**

has been suspended for the summer  
and will resume **August 17.**

**VOLUNTEER MINISTRY - July 3**

<b>Preschool Ext. Session</b> Travis and Erin Whitt	<b>Launch</b> Jason and Caitlin Braud
<b>Worship Welcomers</b> Celeste Little Pam Gray Don and Donia Evans	<b>Greeters</b> Greg and Kathryn Monsour Richard and Laura Abney
<b>Security Team 2</b> John Calhoun Steve Gressett Brad Henry Ben Webb	<b>Counting Committee</b> Neil Henry, <i>chairman</i> Chris Lauderdale Ward Calhoun Ryan Haarala

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**SUNDAY, July 3**

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

**MONDAY, July 4**

*Church Office will be closed in  
observance of Independence Day.*

**TUESDAY, July 5**

12:00 - YOUTH GIRLS' Bible Study

**WEDNESDAY, July 6**

5:15 - Prayer Meeting/Chapel

**THURSDAY, July 7**

7:30 - Paradise in Picayune  
(Children's Ministry Trip)  
(Return by 5:30 p.m.)

12:00 - YOUTH GUYS' Bible Study

**FRIDAY, July 8**

6:00 - G.I.F.T. (gym)

*If you are interested in a **FREE one year subscription** of the new publication, **The Baptist Paper**, published bi-weekly by The Alabama Baptist in partnership with The Baptist Record of Mississippi, please call the church office. We have limited free subscriptions available to our church family. Drop by and fill out a card by **July 6.** The Mississippi Baptist Foundation must receive them by July 11. Thanks!*

**USHERS FOR JULY**

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,  
Leslie Williams

*Dr. Daniel P. Caldwell, Interim Pastor  
Rev. David Bishop, Associate Pastor for Music  
Caitlin Braud, Director of Children's Ministries  
Noah Greer, Interim Youth Minister  
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

JULY 3, 2022

VOLUME 94, NUMBER 26



## Freedom in Christ and the 4th of July!

**July 4th is a gift.** We didn't earn it—we received from the people who lived, led, and died to fight for it. Everyone who gets a gift has two questions. First, "Who is it from?" Second, "What does it do?" My freedom in Christ is from Jesus. I didn't earn it. He died for it. That's who it's from, but what does it do? *Galatians 5:1* reminds me, it's for freedom we've been set free. What does my freedom do? Give more freedom. It's freedom for me, my marriage, my kids, my friends, my co-workers, and my neighbors. I was given this gift to share.

**It's a celebration of restoration complete with fireworks and great food...** all to celebrate liberty once lost—but now found. Humans love to celebrate finding lost things because we were made in God's image, and God parties big for restoration. Jesus told a story about this called the Prodigal Son. When the son came home, the Father killed his best cow and threw a party (*Luke 15:11-24*). Jesus even suggests that angels celebrate in heaven when someone discovers freedom in Christ (*Luke 15:10*). And what happens when we all meet Jesus? A glorious supper (*Revelation 19:16-17*).

**It's united.** The Declaration of Independence was written by thirteen different colonies, but within the document, they are called "we." "We hold these truths to be self-evident ..." Jesus set you and me free as individuals, but we live out this freedom as His Church. One body with many parts (*1 Corinthians 12:1-27*). When your "I" becomes "we," it's amazing what we can accomplish.

*(Excerpts from an article by Jason Inman)*



## Church family,

This may have been my favorite year of Vacation Bible School yet, thanks to a very gracious God and to a whole lot of you! To each and every one of you who took time out of your week to make VBS happen, we thank you! We had every age range represented, from our Babies to our Senior Adults, and it was a beautiful thing to see the full body of Christ working together!

We had 64 children registered with about 60 in attendance each day! The gospel was preached, hearts were touched, and \$1106.98 was raised for the gospel to continue to go forward outside of our walls! If you've not been connected to VBS, I promise you are missing out, and there is always a way to plug in. To everyone involved from the seemingly smallest tasks to those in the forefront, we are so grateful for your contribution!

Caitlin, Julie, & Shea



**CentriKid Parent Meeting**  
Sunday, July 10  
11:30 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall  
(immediately after morning worship)

## SUMMER YOUTH STUFF...

Tuesdays at 12:00 noon

Girls' Bible Study

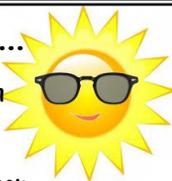
Thursdays at 12:00 noon

Guys' Bible Study

ALL YOUTH - WEDNESDAYS

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Bible Study and Fun Night



**ABIDE** CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
THURSDAY, JULY 7 - Paradise in Picayune  
(private beach in Picayune, MS)

Leave @ 7:30 a.m. Return by 5:30 p.m.

**COST: \$20** Bring a sack lunch and Snacks!

There are no concessions on site!

Don't forget your swimsuit, towel, sunscreen and change of clothes.

**THURSDAY, JULY 14 - Skate Date - Meridian**  
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Meet up @ Skate Odyssey @ 1:15 p.m.

Pickup at Skate Odyssey @ 4:00 p.m.

**COST: \$10** (includes admission and skate rental)

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 20 - MOVIE DATE: SING 2**  
Uptown Meridian

Meet at 9:45 a.m. at Golden Ticket Cinemas for the 10 a.m. movie

**Cost: \$6** (includes movie ticket, popcorn and drink combo.)

**NOTE: If your child will need transportation, please let Caitlin know. Some outings may require personal vehicles. Let Caitlin know if you can help.**

**NOTE: A CURRENT 2022 signed and notarized Medical Release Form is required to be on file in the church office for attendance on all trips!**

## G.I.F.T.

Friday, July 8 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Birth through 6th Grade

Make reservations by contacting Julie Holloway @ 601-934-0803 by **Sunday, July 3**



If you would like to help host a Bridal Tea Shower to celebrate the wedding of

Ann Morgan Lamar and West Wells, please sign the sheet on the Welcome Center Counter or call the church office.

**DATE: Sunday, August 7 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

Questions? Contact Fay Adkins.