

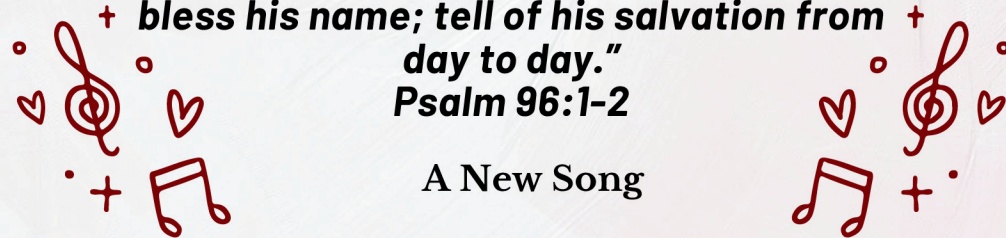


Worship Ministry

REV. MESA MITCHELL, WORSHIP PASTOR

"Oh, sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day."
Psalm 96:1-2

A New Song



I am so honored and humbled to serve as your new worship pastor and eager to grow our music ministry in a way that honors God and serves this growing family of faith.

My vision centers on a diverse, biblically grounded choir and praise team ministry—voices from every generation joined with instrumentalists and technicians—to lead worship that is musically excellent and boldly Christ-centered. Worship is more than music; it's a life offered to God lived in community and mission. We will provide regular rehearsals, mentorship, and training so every gift is maximized to its full potential, inviting children, students, and adults to participate—from the choir loft to the pews. Sundays will feature a blend of choir and praise team-led worship, with outreach events that bring our neighbors into an encounter with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Join us for choir rehearsal every Sunday afternoon at 4:30 p.m., as we are already practicing Easter music that includes narrations and a full band ensemble. Join us as we sing a new song to The Lord!

With You In Worship,

Mesa Mitchell



MIDWEEK MENU:
4th: Fried Chicken
11th: Spaghetti & Meatballs
18th: No Supper
25th: Pulled Pork



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Franklinton
(985) 839-3427 OFFICE
SERVICE TIMES

Sundays
Worship Services
8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study
9:30 a.m.

Choir Practice
4:30 p.m.

Wednesdays
Wednesday Night Supper
5:00 p.m.

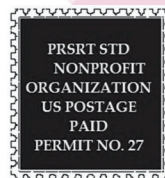
Preschool, Children, Student Ministry Activities
6:00 p.m.

Adult & Ladies Bible Studies
6:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting
6:00 p.m.

[http://](http://www.fbcfranklinton.org) **CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT**
WWW.FBCFRANKLINTON.ORG

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
950 SELF STREET
FRANKLINTON, LA 70438



What does it mean to follow Christ?



I have contemplated this thought most of my life. No other passion drives me as much as seeing others give themselves wholly to God. Jesus has commanded us to Go and make disciples of all nations, but we cannot go until we ourselves yield completely to God's call on our own lives.

The call to follow Jesus is not a single call but a series of calls in our lives. True Discipleship does not happen in a moment but over a lifetime. Our coming to faith in Christ is only the first step. Jesus' call to follow Him is a call to...

A Call to Believe (John 1:35; John 11:40)
John the Baptist pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God. Some of his disciples heard this, believed it, and began to follow Jesus. Believing opens our minds and our eyes to the things of God. Jesus told Martha (the sister of Lazarus) at the tomb of her brother, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" Believing is seeing!

A Call to Serve (Matt. 4:19, 10:8, 25:35ff)
When Jesus spoke to His first disciples, He told them to follow Him, and He would make them fishers of men. Belief in Jesus always results in actions. Faith that has saved you has changed you. Jesus called His disciples to heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and preach the good news! The call to follow is a call to serve.

A Call to Go (Luke 6:12-13, Matt. 28:18-20)
After a night of prayer, Jesus selected twelve to be His apostles, His sent ones. After His resurrection, Jesus commanded all the believers to Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them. Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus sent His followers out to the work of ministry (Luke 10:1-12), and He is sending us today!

A Call to Die (John 21:18-19)
Dietrich Bonhoeffer (who lost his life for his faith in Christ) has famously said, "When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die." He calls us to die to our old way of life. He calls us to give up our old identity, our old vocation, our old allegiances. But it is the same death every time – death of the old man...death to our own will...death of our old affections and lusts...a call to death is actually our call to Life."

Come join us as we follow Jesus!

With Grace and Peace,
Bro. Keith Sheridan



Senior Adult Ministry

REV. JOEY MILLER, ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF PASTORAL CARE

Encouraging a generation that knows Christ AND MAKES HIM KNOWN.

KNOWING & SHARING THE LOVE OF GOD

By this we know love, because He (Jesus) laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. - 1 John 3:16
Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. - 1 John 4:7-8

During this month of "love," we share Valentine cards, hearts, and red roses as expressions of love and friendship. Wikipedia says that 190 million valentines are sent during the month of February, not to mention valentines that are exchanged by kids in schools. With all this, you would think there's a whole lot of love around. But do we know the meaning of real love? When kids were asked the question "What is love?" little Karen said, "When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down, and little stars come out of you." Four-year-old Lauren said, "I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones." We may have a hard time defining love, but one thing is for sure - Experiencing love and expressing love are keys to living. John tells us in 1 John that we can know love through Jesus who laid down His life for us. And God calls us to share this same quality of love with one another because "he who does not love does not know God, for God is love". Psychologists agree with this Biblical truth. Victor Hugo said that the supreme happiness of life is knowing that we are loved. And Karl Menninger wrote that love is the key to all wholeness and happiness.

Truths that help us know God's love and share it with others:

1. God loves us the way we are
2. God loves us no matter what we've done
3. God doesn't love us based on our performance
4. But God loves us too much to leave us as we are
5. God demonstrated His love by giving His own Son as our Savior
6. God invites us to receive His love by receiving Jesus as Lord
7. God wants us to share His love with those around us

-Joey Miller-

ADULT 55+ FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Our February luncheon will be held on Friday, February 6, at 10:30 in the FBC Family Life Center. The menu will be potluck with baked and fried chicken. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy fellowship together. Our speaker will be Bro. Keith Sheridan.

GOOD SAMARITAN -
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2 @ 3 PM
FAIR CITY REHAB -
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16 @ 3 PM



FBC Student Ministry

BRO. DRAKE WESTMORELAND- NEXT GEN PASTOR

DISCIPLING A GENERATION THAT KNOWS CHRIST AND MAKES HIM KNOWN.

January set the tone for a year of spiritual focus and bold faith within our student ministry. We began the month with Vision Night, where students were challenged to live unashamed, take ownership of their faith, and commit to intentional discipleship in 2026. That call was met with enthusiasm, engagement, and a noticeable hunger for God's Word. Throughout the month, we saw students respond in worship, lean into Scripture, and pursue community with purpose—momentum that continued to build and culminated in Encounter Weekend, where the gospel was clearly proclaimed, and six students placed their faith in Christ.

Just as encouraging as the decisions made was the maturity displayed by our students. During Encounter Weekend, our guest teaching team repeatedly affirmed the students' biblical knowledge, theological depth, and thoughtful interaction with Scripture, even taking time to commend the strength of our discipleship process by name. That kind of fruit is the result of faithful leaders, committed parents, and a church family that believes deeply in discipling the next generation. Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and ongoing support—January was a powerful reminder that your investment is making an eternal difference, and we are expectant for all God will continue to do in the months ahead.

-Drake Westmoreland



FBC Kids Ministry

KELLY MCELVEEN,
DIRECTOR OF FBC PLAYSCHOOL, CHILDREN'S & PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

Raising a generation that knows Christ AND MAKES HIM KNOWN.

One of the greatest blessings of our church is the opportunity to reflect Christ's love to the children and families He has entrusted to us. Jesus made it clear how deeply He values children, welcoming them with compassion, patience, and joy. Thank you for helping, through our Preschool Giving Tree, create spaces where children feel safe, known, and loved!

Showing Christ's love starts with simple, faithful actions. This month, children will be encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item each time they attend Sunday School or Wednesday nights to help fill the Blessing Box that will soon be in place on our church campus. Each month this year, we will be encouraging our children to not just give or go, but to faithfully pray for those in our community as we become the hands and feet of Jesus. While we want to continually point children toward the love of Christ, we want to provide them with the opportunity to do the same.

As a church family, may we continue to be a place where children grow in faith and families find encouragement. When we love our children well, we are not only caring for today's needs but also helping to shape hearts for a lifetime of following Jesus.

Mark your calendars for:

Sunday, February 1st: Blessing Box Donations Begin

Children are encouraged to bring one (or more!) non-perishable food item for our Blessing Box each time they attend church this month at Sunday School or Wednesday Evenings (cheat: it's a total of 7).

Wednesdays, beginning February 4th at 6 pm, for Grades 1-4: The Gospel, God's Plan for Me

We have lots of children asking questions about what it means to be a Christian, so we will be pausing our regular BLAST lessons to spend 6 weeks looking more deeply at the good news of the Gospel. For 1st-4th grade children who have already made a decision for Christ, they will be using this time understanding the Gospel and how to share the good news with others.

Wednesday, February 18th: No Wednesday Evening Activities

Sunday, February 22nd at 7 pm: CentriKid Bake Auction

We hope you will mark your calendar for a fun time that everyone has been asking for! It's been several years since we had our CentriKid fundraiser, so start working out those shoulders and be ready to bid! Parents of CentriKid Campers, I will be in touch with each of you individually on how campers should participate. We will have a parent meeting in March.

Wednesday, February 25th: Blessing Box Donations Due

Well, sort of! This will be an ongoing ministry, so feel free to drop items off in the box whenever you can!

February Wee Worship

1st: Wendi Fortenberry 15th: Toni Tageant
8th: Kelly McElveen 22nd: Leslie Westmoreland