

# BRANCHES

## NEWSLETTER

### FROM THE HEART, THANK YOU!

Church family,

What a wonderful evening of fellowship, food, and generosity! We are so grateful to everyone who helped make the Youth Spaghetti Dinner and Cake Auction such a tremendous success.

Thank you to those who prepared and cooked the delicious meal, beautifully decorated the space, organization, helped with setup beforehand, and stayed afterward for tear down. Your servant hearts and willingness to jump in wherever needed made the night run smoothly and created such a welcoming atmosphere for all.

A special thank you to the talented bakers who provided the incredible cakes, pies, peanut brittle and breads for the auction. Your time, creativity, and generosity added excitement (and sweetness!) to the evening.

We are also deeply thankful for those who enthusiastically participated in the auction and for everyone who contributed additional gifts. Your generosity is an investment in the spiritual growth and future of our youth. Because of you, our students will have opportunities for discipleship, fellowship, and faith-building experiences at Passport Camp.

Thank you for loving, supporting, and encouraging the young people of our church. We are blessed to serve in such a caring and generous church family.

Sincerely,

Todd, Renee and Youth



### CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Jolly Agers meeting is March 3rd at noon.** Come for the fun, stay for the prizes, and enjoy some warm fellowship with friends. Don't miss it!
- **Daylight Savings: March 8,** Set your clocks forward 1 hour.
- **Good Friday:** March 27<sup>th</sup>
- **Community Easter Egg Hunt and Celebration:** Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>, FBC Front Lawn
- **Holy Week:** March 29<sup>th</sup> – April 5<sup>th</sup>
- **Palm Sunday Concert:** March 29<sup>th</sup> FBC Sanctuary at 6pm
- **Church Conference:** Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>, Directly after Worship Services
- **Community Lenten Lunch:** March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Presbyterian Church



### PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Pastor Search Committee continues to move forward with intentionality and prayer. On Sunday, Feb. 22, our team met to review and discuss the valuable feedback received from your written surveys and our recent Congregational Conversation. We are currently including your responses in our Church and Pastor Profile. This document serves two purposes:

- For our Church: It provides a clear snapshot of who we are and where God is leading us.
- For Candidates: It acts as our primary introduction to potential pastors, helping them discern if their gifts align with the needs of First Baptist Church of Commerce.

What's Next?

Once the profile is finalized, we will share it with the congregation. Immediately following this, we will officially begin the process of requesting and reviewing resumes.

A Note on the Journey

In his guidance for committees through the [Center for Healthy Churches](#), Dr. Bill Wilson reminds us:

"This is a spiritual discernment process. Everyone needs to get their prayer life in order... Be patient. With a search process like this, fast is slow, and slow is fast."

How You Can Help

Your committee asks for your continued patience and constant prayers. We are deeply grateful for a congregation that clearly loves our Lord and this church family. Please join us in praying for wisdom as we draft the profile that will represent us to our next pastor.

### SERVANTS @ A GLANCE

**Deacons:**

- **March 1:** \*Johnny Eubanks and Joyce Bradshaw
  - **March 8:** \*Todd Chandler and Ann Rhoads
- \*Sunday Morning Announcements

**Greeters:**

- **March 1:** Janis Miller
- **March 8:** Ann Hairston

**Ushers:**

- **March 1:** \*Terry Canup, Jon Massey, Jimmy Bray, Tricia Massey, and Pam Canup
- **March 8:** \*Mark Beardsley, Ron Henderson, Bob Harper, Johnny Eubanks, and Janis Miller

**Nursery Team:**

- **March 1:** Jennifer Sanders & Pam Canup
- **March 8:** Jennifer Sanders & Donna Allen

### MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Food Bank in Memory of Judge Joe Booth  
 General Budget in Memory of Linda Hendrix  
 Youth Ministry in Honor of Donna Allen  
 General Budget in Memory of Dr. Crawford



### NEXT MEETING MARCH 3

**12:00 Noon in the Fellowship Hall**

Event is FREE; Just bring something tasty to share, and invite a friend!

*If you bring a new guest you will receive an extra raffle ticket!*

### BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 2/25: Catherine Dezotell | 3/7: Bree Sanders    |
| 2/27: Linda Bryant       | 3/12: Karen Wardlaw  |
| 2/28: Chanda Palmer      | 3/12: Stella Henry   |
| 2/28: Trey Bowen         | 3/12: Nicky Wilbanks |
| 3/2: Adam Shirley        | 3/13: Tyson Sosby    |
| 3/4: Ron Dundore         | 3/15: Donna Sosebee  |

### MEALS ON WHEELS

- 2/25: Vickie McElroy & Patsy Simmons
- 2/26: Susan Harvin
- 2/27: Randall & Karen Wardlaw
- 3/2: Donna Sosebee & Gail Allen
- 3/3: Bob Harper
- 3/4: Brittany Pilcher
- 3/5: Jon Massey
- 3/6: Marilyn & Michael Miller
- 3/9: Bob Greco & Susan Harper
- 3/10: Kathy Thomason & Janis Miller
- 3/11: Beverly George
- 3/12: Brenda Meadows
- 3/13: Beth Mattox

### FOOD BANK DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS

- Week of March 1<sup>st</sup>: Mark Beardsley
- Week of March 8<sup>th</sup>: Jeanie Whitener
- Week of March 15<sup>th</sup>: Ann Rhoads
- Week of March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Sharon Highsmith

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Monthly Giving Required: \$39,500  
 Monthly Giving as End of February: \$21,127  
 Year To Date Giving Required : \$203,505.50  
 YTD as of End of February: \$183,970



Thank You



Dear Church Family, I want to thank you very much for the Valentine bag you sent me. I love it very much! Love to you All, Geneva Haggard