



FBC Commerce is a family of faith who believes in experiencing and extending Christian community through authentic worship, spiritual formation, impactful ministries, global missions and relational fellowship.



## SEEDS FROM THE PASTOR

REV. PHILIP VESTAL

Next Wednesday begins the Season of Lent, the time leading up to the remembrance of Jesus' death and the celebration of his resurrection. Also next Wednesday @ 6 PM in the Sanctuary I want to encourage everyone to join us for our special Ash Wednesday worship service. This sacred time is always a holy occasion as much of our attention focuses on the sacrificial death of the cross on which our Savior bled and died for the forgiveness of sin.

During Lent one of the spiritual traditions is to 'give up' something as a way of committing oneself to a more intimate level of faithfulness to Christ. Some people will not eat certain foods or drinks during Lent, some will not watch TV or they might give up social media. The biblical model is referred to as fasting. ***Fasting is feasting!*** Wait, was that a typo? No, it is not. The main principle behind fasting is not what we give up, but what we gain. We often lose sight of this truth; by fasting we fill our lives with the things of God. So, when

you fast, yes, you might temporarily surrender certain pleasures, but what you are actually doing is allowing your cup to overflow with all that God offers. Fasting is a spiritual discipline Jesus expects to be practiced as well. In Matthew 6, Jesus says, 'When you fast...' He also stresses — fasting is done privately to glorify God, not to impress man.

My prayer for you is that you'll feast this Lenten season. May the Lord fill you with every good and perfect gift...to the point you overflow in divine abundance.

I look forward to seeing you Sunday as we continue our current series MORE OF GOD and *don't forget to wear something that represents your favorite HS, College or Pro team.* You are loved, appreciated and prayed for.

*Blessings,*  
*PV*

# UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES



The Children & Youth Spaghetti Dinner and Cake Auction will be Sunday **February 11 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall**. Come for a great dinner and bid on the delicious cakes! Tickets for the dinner are \$10 each, available for purchase from Todd Chandler, the youth or the church office. Tickets will also be available at the door. Donations for supper supplies and cakes are appreciated.



Ash Wednesday service will be **February 14 at 6:00 PM** in the Sanctuary. There will be **NO** Wednesday night supper.

## Photo Directory

Photos will be taken for the new FBC Photo Directory April 14-16. Please plan to schedule some time to have your photo taken during these days so you can be added into the directory.



March 5 at noon will be the next Jolly Agers luncheon. This month's program will be all about Commerce history. Bring a covered dish and come enjoy this time of good food, fellowship, and rich history.

## Men's Community Breakfast

Come for a wonderful time of good food, great fellowship and an opportunity to join other men of faith as we explore the theme "Living the Legacy." The breakfast is complementary, but donations are welcomed. For more information, please contact the Church Office.

**Sunday, February 25th, 2024**

**7:30 AM: Breakfast**

**8:30 AM: Program**

**Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Commerce**

(A joint ministry partnership of First Baptist Commerce and Mt. Calvary Baptist Church)

## New Members Luncheon

Sunday, **March 3rd at 12:15** in the Fellowship Hall is a luncheon for new members and those who are interested in joining. The meal is complementary and afterwards you will receive a New Members Packet followed by a Q&A. To register contact the Church Office.



This coming Sunday morning, **February 11**, remember to wear something that represents your favorite high school, college, or pro team.



# 150



FBC  
1965

## Our 150th Anniversary Celebration: October 20, 2024

On November 21, 1874 our church was constituted from letters from 88 Christians who were committed to establishing a Baptist church in the Harmony Grove community. These 88 individuals came from five area Baptist churches (Black's Creek, Cabin Creek, Beaverdam, Oconee, and Grove Level). We were planted by individuals who were passionate about insuring that there was a Baptist church to serve the people in Harmony Grove. They wanted to make sure that our community was able to do God's work! Today, in an era that there are churches down the street and around the corner, it seems strange that there was no Baptist church in the community.

In the last 150 years, we have been a presence in what is now Commerce. We have been an essential part of this community and have continued to do God's work. On October 20, 2024, we will celebrate 150 years of faithful service to our Lord, to our community, and to the world. We are working to plan the day, gathering memories and memorabilia. We need your help!

### How to help:

Save the date 10-20-24! Put this on your calendar now and plan to attend.

Join us on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 3:00 pm to organize.

Make suggestions! Share your ideas!

Let us know of some of your favorite memories.

Let us know of a member who significantly influenced you.

Is anyone (besides the Sanders) related to an original member? Please let us know and share the connection.

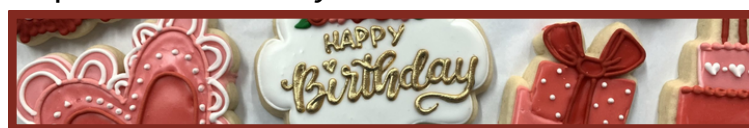
Invite people! Let friends and family know about this!

Did anyone attend the 100th anniversary? What details do you remember?

Do you have any pictures, bulletins, newsletters, or brochures that we can have or copy?

Do you know of addresses or phone numbers of former preachers and staff that should be invited to our celebration? Please share.

Our church office staff is willing to accept or copy any materials or information that you have. Please make sure that you include your name on memories or items so we know who to return things to or who to quote if we use your ideas.



February 8:

Anna Hardy

February 11:

Karen Smyth

February 12:

Tucker Flint

February 15:

Paige McCannon

February 15:

Amy Halley

Stone Shirley

February 18:

Geneva Haggard

February 19:

Shannon Braselton

February 20:

John Rogers

# SERVANTS @ A GLANCE

## DEACONS

**Feb. 11:** Todd Chandler &  
Jacqui Dundore

**Feb. 18:** Becky Perry &  
Cameron Shirley

## COUNTERS

**Feb. 11:** Ron Dundore &  
Mark Beardsley

**Feb. 18:** Billy Chandler &  
William Westbrooks

## GREETERS

**Feb. 11:** William Westbrooks

**Feb. 18:** Paula Langston

## USHERS

**Feb. 11:** Mark Beardsley, Ron  
Henderson, Bob Harper, Steve Wilson,  
Johnny Eubanks

**Feb. 18:** Ron Dundore, Johnny  
Bridges, Susan Harvin, Karen Wardlaw,  
Randall Wardlaw, Tracy Wilson

## OUTREACH LEADER

Deborah Adams

## NURSERY WORKERS

**Feb. 11:** Leslie Pits &  
Jennifer Sanders

**Feb. 18:** Tracy Wilson &  
Etta Yaughn



**Meals on  
Wheels**

Feb. 12: Jean Montrose

Feb. 13: Kathy Thomason

Feb. 14: Beverly George

Feb. 15: Mark & Barbara Beardsley

Feb. 16: Ernie & Kathy Pruett

Feb. 19: Glenda Barron

Feb. 20: Tracy Wilson &  
Rachel Malcom

Feb. 21: Ron & Jacqui Dundore

Feb. 22: Susan Harvin

Feb. 23: Randall & Karen Wardlaw



**Feb.12-16:**  
Sharon Highsmith

**Feb. 19-23:**  
Mark Beardsley

# Notes and Reminders

## March Calendar

- FBC will be having primary early voting in the Family Fellowship Center the first week of March. The Fellowship Center will not be available to rent from **March 1-March 10**.
- **March 3** will be the New Members' Luncheon
- Jolly Agers on **March 5** at noon.
- **March 10** will be the Lord's Supper during morning worship.
- WMU Meeting **March 13** at 10:00 AM.
- March Mission Madness will be **March 15-17**.
- Holy Week will be March **24-31**.

It's a month packed with activities!  
Make sure to mark your calendars to  
attend these events!



## Memorials and Honorariums

General Budget in memory of John Rylee  
Window Fund in memory of Joyce Eubanks  
Building Fund in memory of Bruce Hudson

## Reports



## Stewardship Reports as of February 7

Monthly Giving Required	\$38,334.00
Monthly Giving as of Feb. 7	\$13,137.40
YTD Giving Required through February	\$191,670.00
YTD Giving Received through Feb. 7	\$193,143.47



## Attendance Report for Jan. 28 & Feb. 4

Sunday School	72	72
Morning Worship	104	87

## Upcoming Meetings



Sunday,  
**Feb. 11** at  
8:30 AM



The WMU will be  
meeting **Feb. 14** at  
10:00 AM in the  
Fellowship Hall.



**Church Conference**  
Sunday, **Feb. 25** after  
Morning Worship

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sunday

- 9:45 AM Bible Study
- 11:00 AM Morning Worship
- 6:00-7:30 F4-Youth

### Wednesday

- 5:30 PM Family Supper
- 6:00 PM The Gathering
- 6:15 PM Choir Rehearsal