

First Baptist Church of Boaz

A family committed to love God, grow in Christ, & live His mission.

First Baptist Church of Boaz
 225 South Main Street P.O. Box 337
 Boaz, Alabama 35957
 256.594.8580
 www.fbcboaz.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST FACTS

Sunday, September 4, 2016

The People Came...

Sunday School Attendance	333
8:30 AM Worship	122
10:30 AM Worship	244
Total AM Worship	366
PM Worship	75

The People Gave...

Budget Receipts	\$	36,012.10
Building Fund	\$	120.00
Legacy Fund	\$	-0-
Bus Receipts	\$	-0-
Other non-budgeted receipts	\$	2,055.00
Weekday Preschool Wage & Taxes	\$	-0-
Total Receipts	\$	38,187.10
Budget Requirements to date	\$	821,423.16
Budget Receipts to date	\$	726,483.16
Budget Expenses to date	\$	676,963.76

Sunday, September 11, 2016

The People Came...

Sunday School Attendance	346
8:30 AM Worship	175
10:30 AM Worship	250
Total AM Worship	425
PM Worship	78

The People Gave...

Budget Receipts	\$	28,355.99
Building Fund	\$	360.00
Legacy Fund	\$	50.00
Bus Receipts	\$	25.00
Other non-budgeted receipts	\$	6,289.00
Weekday Preschool Wage & Taxes	\$	-0-
Total Receipts	\$	35,079.99
Budget Requirements to date	\$	844,240.47
Budget Receipts to date	\$	754,839.15
Budget Expenses to date	\$	706,713.80

CHURCH STAFF

- Dr. Aaron D. Johnson, *Pastor*
- Rev. Tommy Pierce, *Minister of Music*
- Rev. Jonathan Lancaster, *Associate Pastor*
- Jill Arrington, *Children's Minister*
- BJ Faucett, *Student Minister*
- Pam Whitt, *Pastor's Ministry Assistant*
- Mary Moore, *Financial Ministry Assistant*
- Dana Hill, *Programs Ministry Assistant*
- Reneé Pierce, *Music Ministry Associate*
- Carolyn Ledbetter, *Weekday Preschool Director*
- Luke Ledbetter, *Building Superintendent*

Our Newest Members

By Baptism
 Ava Rhoden (16)
 200 Lindo Dr
 Boaz, AL 35956 Ph: 256-302-7755
 Deacon: Adam Pierce

Harper Walls (1)
 614 College Ave
 Boaz, AL 35957 Ph: 205-451-3743
 Deacon: Peter John Lambert

By Letter/Statement (1)
 Mandy Bishop
 745 Summerville Rd
 Boaz, AL 35957 Ph: 256-305-3413
 Deacon: Rick Thompson

Sincere Christian Sympathy is extended by the staff and church family to ... The family of Chris Brasfield, son of Wanza Timmons.

Deacons On Call September 18
 Steve Williams
 Neal Arrington

Please join us for a
Miscellaneous Tea
in honor of
Emily Tarwater
bride-elect of
James Thompson

Sunday, October 2, 2016
 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

At the home of
Leigh Landers
 1133 Noel Street
 Boaz, Alabama 35957

Hosted by:
Ladies of FBC and Friends
Gift Registries at Bed Bath & Beyond, Belk, and Crystal Corner

Deacons On Call September 25
 Stan Clemons
 Peter John Lambert

Volume 25

Issue 18

September 14, 2016

BROTHERHOOD

Sunday, September 18
 7:00 AM
 Fellowship Hall

Speaker:
 Edwin Waldrop

CDL Classes
 will be offered
 beginning
September 18
 at 2:00 PM
 in D202

See Walker Segars for more details

Pray for:

REVIVAL
October 16 - 19

with
 John Jenkins
 Mike Whitt
 Brent Roe
 Mat Alexander
 Luke Johnson

Music:
 Gerald Arrington



Annual Deacon Banquet
 Monday, October 3
 6:00 PM
 Snead Cafeteria

Special Guest:
 Bro. Wayne Scott

Music by The Fishermen

Sign up in the foyer or call the church office by September 28

FROM THE PASTOR...

Aaron D. Johnson

Dear Church Family,

On Sunday September 2nd, the following note was written on a worship folder and left in the offering plate. Since I have no idea who left it, I think it best to answer publicly, and maybe to a short Bible study as well.

"The pulpit is gone-The Bible is gone-The communion table is gone-Will the cross be next?"

Since one person wrote, it makes sense that others are asking the same question. First of all, the cross is the center of our faith. My personal preference is that the cross never be covered. However, the screen covers the cross most of the time. In order for the congregation to participate in many of the songs we sing, words have to be projected thereby requiring the use of the screen. Again, my personal preference would be to have the cross visible at all times.

Has a Bible been visible on the platform during the last two and one half years? We have not moved a Bible. Back in the early 90's there was a large "pulpit Bible" that remained opened on the communion table at all times. Since I don't recall seeing that Bible, I don't know where it might be.

The pulpit has been moved because it is impossible for me to see above or around it from a sitting position. The removal was merely an act of practicality. Several Sundays ago, during the late service invitation, my knee simply gave away. This happens from time to time. The difference this time is that it hasn't come back! I had an appointment last Friday and again this Friday with an orthopedic surgeon to make a decision about future surgery. Once the knee has been repaired and I can again stand, we might well see the return of the pulpit.

The communion table has been moved only to make room for prayer at the altar. Our platform is tiny, with little room atop and even less around the perimeter for prayer. Just last Sunday the altar was filled with members in prayer. I want to leave the altar open in an attempt to create an open place for congregational prayer and repentance. God is willing to do far more than we even ask if we humble ourselves. Each Sunday, the altar is open!

Please let me assure you that there is no sinister plot to remove any symbols of our traditions. Rather, there has been a logical sequence of movements that have been required for various reason. If the removal of the pulpit or communion table is of a great theological consequence then we should by all means replace them. I am certain I can find a chair even higher than the one I now use.

Finally, let me make one fine point of theology. Matthew 18 has been the subject of a sermon recently. The gist of the passage is how we are to respond when we have a grievance with a brother or sister of faith. We go to the person first. If nothing is resolved we then take two witness to confirm the issue. If there is no resolve we are required to take the matter to the church. If I have in any way offended by the rearrangement of the platform, I honestly apologize. My intention has never been anything other than to honor the Lord in the most practical way possible.

Satan would like nothing more than to disrupt that which God is doing in our family of faith. Take every occasion to guard the heart of our church. We are due for a great outpouring of God's grace and His presence. As we worship, let us approach the throne of grace each week as clean as sinners saved by grace can be.

May our Lord bless us each richly!

Your Pastor,

Pastor Aaron

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Jill Arrington

Together we are guiding children to Jesus

Praise God for sending 50+ children to participate in our Afterschool Kids Bible Clubs. We offer a Monday Club for kids in grades 4-6 and than another on Tuesdays for kids, Pre-K—3rd grade. If you are interested in discovering how you may assist either club, please contact the church office.



Children's Fall Missions Festival

for Guys & Girls, gr.1-6

October 14-15, 2016

at World Song Mission Place
in Cook Springs, Alabama

Cost is \$30 per person: includes meals, lodging & programming. We will leave the church 4 PM on Friday and return by 4 PM on Saturday. Sign up by September 18 or notify Jill via email, jilla@fbcboaz.org. A deposit of \$15 is due when registering. Partial scholarships are available.

Children will hear from missionaries and learn about living out the Great Commission in Norway. They will experience another culture through food, customs, crafts and games. We will also have the opportunity to hike, canoe, and zip line!

Church-Wide Ministry Opportunity

Want to let God use you to influence the next generation with the love of Jesus & support our schools? We are looking for individuals who can listen to a child read once a week (30 minutes) in our local Elementary School. Please sign up in the church foyer, we will get more information to you. If you are age 55 or older, we will also connect you with RSVP Reading Buddy Program.

Reading Buddies needed



Begin asking God how He wants you, along with your Sunday School class, to assist in this church-wide outreach. It is set for Saturday, October 29th, 3-6 pm.

Bible Study classes for children birth – 6th graders are in full swing & ready for a great year!

Join us each Sunday morning
9:15- 10:15 am



MUSIC MINISTRY

Tommy Pierce

Dear Church,

Our revival meetings will be here before we know it. Please begin to pray now for this effort. Also, will you please give serious consideration on another matter? Please pray about being in the revival choir. When we gather to worship and the choir loft is full, everyone says "It's time to have church!" You can be a big part of our revival just by being in the choir! Revival choir is a time to be a part of a large choir with no long term commitment. I know you will enjoy Gerald Arrington's leadership! The fellowship and the spiritual emphasis will draw you closer to God and to each other. We will meet on Wednesday night, October 12th at 6:30 PM to go over all the music. Then we will meet before the services each night. If you can't come to the rehearsals but want to be included you are still welcome. All you have to do is show up. To help me know how many chairs to put out, would you please check the services you can be part of and turn it in to the church office. I'll be looking for you.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Services You Can Attend:

Sunday AM _____ Monday _____

Sunday PM _____ Tuesday _____

Bro. Tommy

STUDENT MINISTRY

BJ Faucett

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Students to Six Flags
Saturday, October 15

Strength to Stand Conference
Pigeon Forge
January 14-16, 2017

Mark your calendars! More details coming soon.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Jonathan Lancaster

Church Family,

It can be incredibly frustrating to live in the world of today. There's so much that is happening that runs counter to God's Word. There are so many voices that are championing sin as if it were love. For a Bible-believing Christian, it can be terribly discouraging. Allow me to remind you what God's Word has to say about the big picture.

Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing?

The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!"

He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them.

Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, "But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain. I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession. 'You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware."

Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with trembling. Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

- Psalm 2 (NASB)

Be certain of this: God will have the last laugh and the final word. The only safe place to be is in Him. Praise God for His mercy & the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ! Be strong in the Lord this week!

Grace & Peace,