

## Newsletter: January 2026

### Our Mission Statement:

*Our purpose is to be a unified body seeking to reach up to God, out to people, and down within ourselves to expand God's Kingdom for God's glory.*

### Mark Your Calendars

#### EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

1/1 New Year's Day (Off. Closed)

1/7 Wednesday Night Activities

1/8 Women's Bible Study

1/8 Grateful Hearts Book Club

1/11 Southern Plainsmen – AM Worship Service

1/14 Wednesday Night Activities

1/15 Ladies Bible Study

1/18 Sunday School & Worship

1/18 Church Council & Finance Comm. Meeting

1/20 WMU Meeting

1/21 Wednesday Night Activities & Business Meeting

1/22 Ladies Bible Study

1/23 Fourth Friday Fish Fry @ Clara Springs

1/25 Sunday School & Worship

1/25 Dist. Eight Conv. Ann. Mtg

1/26 & 1/27 ECON Evang. Conf.

1/28 Wednesday Night Activities

1/29 Ladies Bible Study

#### Sunday Service Schedule

Sunday School @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m.

#### Wednesday Night Activities

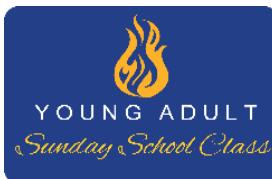
Meal @ 5:30 PM

Prayer Meeting & Bible Study @ 6 PM

Join us weekly for this time of study and prayer. The adults will meet in the fellowship hall. Youth and Children meet in their Sunday School rooms. We have a great time of food, fellowship, and study so come join us!

### "Heaven – When Faith Becomes Sight"

Hey Ladies! Are you looking for a way to begin the year getting closer to God and His scriptures? Join us for this 7-session video-based study with Jennifer Rothschild to explore the subject of Heaven from a biblical perspective. She will separate what's true about Heaven from what's based on legend, media depictions, and hopeful guesses. Our group will meet on Thursdays at 9:30 AM for coffee and Bible Study from 10 AM until noon beginning on January 8<sup>th</sup>. You can buy a book from Lifeway or Amazon. If you purchase the book on your own, you can sign up through the day of the first study. We would love to have you join us for this ladies Bible Study.



### **Calling All Young Adults!!**

We are so excited to announce that beginning Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, we are restarted the Young Adults Sunday School Class. They are meeting in the classroom across from the Church Office. Bro. Wade will be teaching the class and is for young adults aged 18- 40ish. We encourage you if are a young adult to come join us and bring a friend for Sunday School starts at 9:30 a.m.

### **"The Southern Plainsmen" in Concert**

On Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM, the Southern Plainsmen will be here to provide a musical worship service. A love offering for the group will be received to help with their expenses (Please make checks payable to The Southern Plainsmen). Invite a friend or two and come join us for this special service.

**The Church Office needs your help in updating our member records! Now that we have a new**

**Pastor, we need to make sure our members contact information is correct. Over the past few years, we have received returned mail and emails and/or do not have a correct phone numbers. We have Church Information Update sheets printed. There are some on the back table of the sanctuary and on the table by the church office. If you would like, you can contact the office and we can mail or email you a form. Also, we can take your information over the phone. Contact the church office if you have questions. Thanks for your help in making sure we have your up to date info.**



We're Updating Our Member Info!

## Business Meeting on Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6 p.m.

Church members need to attend this important meeting. Several key items will be discussed and voted on. Please make plans to attend the Business Meeting. Come be a part of the business matters and decisions of the church.

### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> @ 4 PM**

**All Committees should meet now!**

It is almost time for the Church Council Meeting. All church committees should meet prior to January to plan activities and events for 2026 as well as elect a chairperson for the year. Committees can contact the office to schedule meetings and to place them on the church calendar. All church leaders and committee chairpersons are asked to attend the Church Council Meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>. If you have any items for the agenda and church calendar for the council meeting, contact the church office to be placed on the agenda.

### **Finance Committees Meeting**

**Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> @ 5 p.m.**

As we begin the new year, we need committees to meet to elect chairs for the Missions & Evangelism, Properties, and Personnel Committee since these chairs will also be on the Finance Committee. All members of this committee is urged to attend. If you cannot attend, contact Paul Morris or the church office.

### **District Eight Baptist Convention Annual Meeting \* Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> @ Clara Springs**

**Messengers for our Church to at December Business Meeting**

**On Agenda = Election of Dr. Jack Bell at District Eight Director**

The convention annual meeting is a great way to hear first-hand what is going on within our association. Also at this meeting, Bro. Jack Bell will be presented as the candidate for the District Eight Director as well as other important matters in our association to be discussed and voted on. The Annual Meeting begins at 4 PM, meal at 5 PM, and Worship at 6 PM. Please pray for the messengers from our church as well as other messengers that will be attending, for Bro. Jack Bell, for traveling safety and for the Convention.

### **W.M.U. Meeting**

**January 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 AM**

**Ladies that are interested in learning and participating in missions are invited to attend.**

### **Bereavement Committee in Need of Volunteers**

*We are in the process of updating our list of people to help with bereavement meals. If you could possibly make a dish or help serve during the meals, please contact the Church Office at 256-5655 to be added so that you can be contacted when the need arises. Thank you for considering to assist this ministry.*

### **January's Emphasis Special Offerings**

**Pro-Life / Crisis Pregnancy Center and FBC Food Pantry**

During the month of January, we will focus on helping make lives better with your support. The offering received this month will be sent to the Pregnancy Center in Natchitoches to help with their endeavors.

It is also time to restock our food pantry at the church. These items are given to families in need who seek some help from us. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**Honduras Mission Trip 2026**

**Online Applications & \$500 Deposits**

**are now being accepted!**

**Brigade Week: May 22-29**

**Village Week: May 23-May 30**

**Surgery Week: May 29-June 5**

**Deadline to apply: Jan. 31**

**Please Contact Benjie Colvin for more information!**

**benjiecolvin@gmail.com**

### **Grateful Hearts Book Club**

Ladies! Looking for a Christian book club? Come join us at Many First Baptist Church. Everyone is welcome. The next book we will discuss is "Under the Tulip Tree" by Michelle Shocklee. Get your book at your favorite bookstore or the library and come ready to discuss it at our meeting on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> @ 2 PM. Bring a friend. For more info, contact the FBC office at 256-5655.

## 4 Easy Ways to Give



service  
Give during  
Sunday School or  
Worship Service.



mobile  
Download Realm  
Connect from your app  
store then sign in with  
your Realm login.



text  
Text FBCMANY to  
73256 which allows  
quick, easy, one-time  
donations.



online  
Log on to church  
website: fbcmany.org  
and click  
Online Giving.

The church had a good year financially for 2025, all thanks to your generous and faithful giving. The 2026 Church Budget has increased and with your continued financial support, we will have another successful year of ministry for our church. We hope that you will continue to be faithful in giving to the church and her ministries. There are several ways that you can give support and encourage you to take advantage of these. If you would like more information on how to do this, the Church Office is here to help answer any questions and guide you through these steps.

## GREETERS NEEDED

We are in need of additional greeters on Sunday mornings. If you would like to know more about how to serve or are interested in signing up, please contact the church office as soon as possible.



January 26, 2026 - January 27, 2026

Location: First Baptist Lafayette

1100 Lee Ave, Lafayette, LA 70501

Evangelism & Church Growth

Designed to empower, encourage, and equip believers, the annual Evangelism Conference (ECON) offers challenging messages and insightful training for Christians to share the Gospel effectively in today's culture. Nearly 3 million people do not have a personal relationship with Christ and need to hear the good news, and this event will prepare you to share it with them. Everyone is invited including pastors, ministry leaders, and laypeople. Come join us as we reach Louisiana for Christ!

## Wednesday Nights are Fabulous at Many FBC!

Join us Wednesday Nights for a great time of food, fellowship, and study. Our meal is covered dish so bring a dish or two and come have dinner with us. Prayer Meeting and Bible Studies begin at 6. Folks have really been enjoying this time of informal discussions, talking about current events, and Biblical applications. We have studies and activities for our kids and youth during this time. If you have not been attending, you are missing out!



**First  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
MANY, LOUISIANA**

# Worship Leader Needed

First Baptist Church in Many  
is searching for a  
Worship Leader.

The Worship Leader will  
mainly be responsible for  
selecting and leading our  
music for Morning Worship  
Service on Sundays. This is  
a part time position.

If interested, please contact  
the church office for an  
application or email resume  
to [fbcmany@yahoo.com](mailto:fbcmany@yahoo.com)  
as soon as  
possible.

First Baptist Church  
990 Main St.  
(318)256-5655  
[www.fbcmany.org](http://www.fbcmany.org)

**Nursery Worker Position Opening**  
FBC is currently looking to hire an additional nursery worker. This would be a part time position. The applicant would need to be available Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, & as needed for special events. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact the church office for an application as soon as possible.

**Youth Worker Staff Opening**  
Our Church is now accepting applications for a Youth Worker to guide and disciple students in grades 7 – 12, helping them grow in their faith and walk with Christ. This is a part time position. If interested, please send resume or fill out application at church office in a timely manner.

## Revised 2026 Budget passed vote

The Budget and Finance Committees presented the proposed Revised 2026 Church Budget in the December Business Meeting and the church members voted unanimously to adopt this revised budget Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions regarding this or any budget matters, contact Karen in the church office or Paul Morris. Be in prayer for this budget and your part in supporting the mission of FBC.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday afternoons. This will allow the office staff to do some records work, cleaning, and maintenance with minimal interruptions. If it is an emergency, of course we will be there to take care of that. Thank you for your help and understanding about the closure.



### Ways to Watch our Services

The Facebook Live Stream is a very important part of our ministry here at FBC. It helps us reach those that are unable to attend our service as well as us telling others about our services so they can watch and receive the message. Our videos and audios of past services are also on our website and YouTube page. Log on and check it out as well as share this info with others. The church YouTube account has the worship videos for 2020-2025.

<https://www.youtube.com/@manyfirstbaptistchurch434/videos>

*The Church Flower Calendar for 2026 is now open. If you have a particular Sunday or two in mind that you would like to place flowers in our Sanctuary, please contact the church office so we can schedule you for a date. The flowers that are placed in the Sanctuary add so much beauty to our worship experience.*



First Baptist Church family,

"Thank You" doesn't seem adequate enough to say for all the prayers, support, and concern given during our Mother's illness and battle with cancer. She loved each and everyone of you.

We also are appreciative of the meal brought out by the bereavement group.

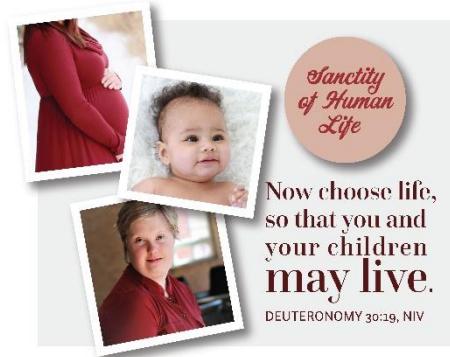
Sincerely,

Robin & Paula

## Sanctity of Life Sunday Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>

### Fourth Friday Fish Fry at Clara Springs

Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Fourth Friday Fish Fry returns Clara Springs Camp. It begins at 5 PM. Adults are \$ 15 per person, kids 10 - 17 yr. old are \$ 10 per person, and kids under 9 & under are free. Contact Clara Springs for more details.



Words from Bro. Wade –

I would like to start out by saying, Happy New Year to our FBC family. Rebecca, Emma, and I are excited about being a part of our new church family and we are looking forward to what God has planned for 2026.

I would like to encourage each member of this church to take time to reflect on the past year and then pray that God would use our lives in an even more impactful way for His kingdom this year. The Bible tells us to seek God's kingdom first and then the other aspects of life will fall into place.

As we start 2026, let's make God the main focus of our lives, let us take time to share His love, and invite others to join us in worship at His church. We can't even imagine what God could do in our own lives and here at FBC Many, if we would whole-heartedly seek first His kingdom. I pray that I do that in my own life this new year and I pray that for each and every one of you.

May God bless as we seek Him.

Bro. Wade



1 Terry Kelly, Lacy Roark  
 3 Stacie Bray  
 5 Robert Gentry  
 9 Doug Abington  
 10 Jayden Gentry  
 11 Donna Lites, Emma Penfield

12 Joanne Pickett  
 13 David Jordan  
 14 Ramona Moore  
 15 Debbie Roark  
 16 Becky Horner  
 19 Colby Strickland  
 24 Levi Booker

26 Terry Kelly  
 27 Camdyn Alford  
 28 Marsha Gentry  
 30 Jacob Scaife  
 31 Trey Sanders, Ainsley Knippers

## Members in Service :

Greeters		Deacon of the Week
1/4	Cathy Kelly, Nancy Wright	Jimmy Bray
1/11	Shirley Salley & Danny Warmack	Danny Warmack
1/18	Phyllis Horton & Shirley Salley	Mike Collier
1/25	Shirley Salley, Delores Geoghegan, and Rocky Wright	Paul Morris

## Deacon Counters for January –

### Look Ahead at Upcoming Activities in February:

- Thursday, February 5 – Ladies Book Club
- Saturday, February 7 – Disaster Relief Training @ FBC, LaPlace
- Sunday, February 8 – World Hunger Meal
- Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> @ 5 PM – Finance Comm. Mtg.
- Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 AM – WMU Meeting
- Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – Business Meeting
- Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Friday Fish Fry @ CS
- Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> - Disaster Relief Training @ FBC, Lafayette



Fill in the blank to complete this verse from 2 Corinthians:

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new \_\_\_\_\_.  
 The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”



A) Creation  
 B) Beginning  
 C) Season  
 D) Covenant

Answer: A (See 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV)

## Bulletin & Newsletter Deadlines

Bulletin for 1/4 = Friday 1/2 @ 9 AM

Bulletin for 1/11 = Thursday 1/8 @ 9 AM

Bulletin for 1/18 = Thursday 1/15 @ 9 AM

Bulletin for 1/25 = Thursday 1/22 @ 9 AM

Newsletter for Feb. = Tuesday, 1/27 @ 9 AM

*To have announcements to be placed in publications, have them to Karen or Phyllis by these deadlines.*

Mike Collier & Phillip Roark

## Vital Statistics

### Financial December 2025

Monthly Budget Needs:	\$ 27,670.29
Gifts Received:	\$ 39,930.88
Budget Needs Over:	\$ 12,260.59

## Emergency Contact Numbers

### First Baptist Church of Many

Church Office = (318)256-5655

M – F 8 AM – 4 PM

### AFTER HOURS CONTACTS:

Bro. Wade Penfield = (318)315-2426

Karen Sepulvado = (318)508-1138

**Does the church office have your contact information? If you are unsure, please drop us an email with your info (cell #, email, mailing address, anniversary date, etc.) so we can update records. Your help in making sure our membership records is correct is appreciated.**

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OFFICE STAFF

Pastor – Rev. Wade Penfield

Church & Financial Secretary – Karen Sepulvado

Church Secretary – Phyllis Horton

# PUZZLE

## TRANSLATE GOD'S WORD

The Bible we use is translated into English from other languages.  
"Translate" the verse below using the code.

CODE	E=△	L=□	R=+·
G=●	M=✓	S=■	
A=■	H=◀	N=□	SH=★
B=×	I=▲	O=✿	T=♪
D=◀◀	K=	P=□	TH=●

Y  
W F  
W  
W  
U

*Proverbs 3:13*

Answer: Happy is the one who finds wisdom and the one who gets understanding.

In the New Testament, followers of Christ are called by many names. Use the hints to fill in the blanks. Need help? Check an NIV Bible for the missing letters.

D \_\_\_\_\_ s   
(Acts 6:7)

C \_\_\_\_\_ n P \_\_\_\_\_ e   
(1 Peter 2:9)

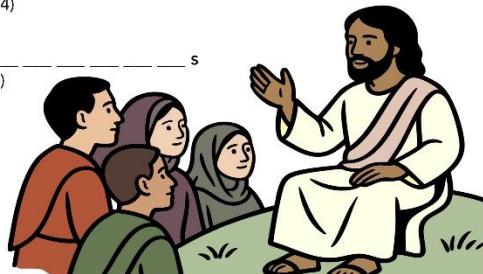
S \_\_\_\_\_ s of C \_\_\_\_\_ t  
(1 Corinthians 4:1)

C \_\_\_\_\_ s  
(Acts 11:26)

B \_\_\_\_\_ s and S \_\_\_\_\_ s  
(1 Thessalonians 4:9-10)

B \_\_\_\_\_ s  
(Acts 5:14)

W \_\_\_\_\_ s  
(Acts 1:8)



Believers; Disciples; Chosen People; Servants of Christ; Christians; Brothers and Sisters;



## Snowflake SNACK CAKES

Celebrate the beauty of winter with these fun snowflake-inspired treats!

**What you need:**

- Graham cracker squares or sugar cookies
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Pretzel sticks (snowflake arms)
- Shredded coconut or white sprinkles
- Mini marshmallows or candy pearls

### What you do:

- Frost each cracker or cookie.
- Arrange pretzel sticks in a crisscross for the snowflake base.
- Sprinkle with coconut or sprinkles for snow.
- Add marshmallows or candy pearls to the ends for detail.

**Lesson tie-in:**  
Remind kids that God made each of us unique—just like no two snowflakes are alike!  
(Psalm 139:14, KJV)

## Scripture Keys to a Joyful New Year

**H**old fast to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)

**A**ssemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)

**P**ray earnestly every day (1 Thessalonians 5:17, 18)

**P**ray for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)

**Y**ield not to temptation (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

**N**egelect not your talents and opportunities (Gal. 6:10)

**E**xamine yourself daily (2 Corinthians 13:5)

**W**ork diligently for the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)

**Y**ield your members to righteousness (Romans 6:11,16)

**E**xercise yourself in godliness (1 Timothy 4:7)

**A**im at sinless perfection (Hebrews 6:1)

**R**edeem the time (Ephesians 5:15, 16)