

**FROM YOUR PASTOR**

*4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*  
Philippians 4:4-7 ESV

In June of 2001, shortly after graduating from William Carey College with a Bachelors in Biblical Studies, I began pastoring Corinth Baptist Church in Picayune, Mississippi. In the nineteen years since, I had only canceled a Sunday morning church gathering one time. That was the Sunday before Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Louisiana/Mississippi coast. In the last several months, however, we have spent fourteen Sundays with our Worship Center closed and holding *online only* worship services. Even though we are able to, once again, worship within the walls of our sanctuary, our gathering is not the same as it use to be. There are no hugs, hand shakes, high fives, or other forms of physical embrace. Due to COVID-19, we have had to learn new ways to honor our biblical mandate of *“not neglecting to meet together.”* For some, this has meant putting on a face covering and attending in-person worship. Others have remained faithful by viewing the service through our online broadcast. Unfortunately, we have many in our faith family that have been unable to worship with us these last several months because they lack the technology to watch online. While life has certainly been different lately, we are still confident that our God is in control. It is my prayer that during this pandemic, *“the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds.”* Please know of my continued prayers for each of you during this time and I humbly request that you pray for our church staff as we attempt to navigate our congregation through the ever-changing waters of the Coronavirus. If there is anything we can do for you, please don't hesitate to let us know by calling our church office at 256-383-4078.

This month, we took a different approach to Vacation Bible School by holding VBS on Sunday mornings during our regular morning worship hour. I am so appreciative of our adults who have embraced this different approach by participating in the hand motions for each song. I know our children are enjoying getting to participate in VBS with you. As we continue VBS each Sunday in August, we will discover the building blocks of a firm foundation of our faith. Those blocks include A Foundation of Love, Forgiveness, Worth, and Promise. Together, these blocks create a Foundation for Life. If you are able, either online or in-person, I hope you will worship with us each Sunday this month.

Beginning in September, we will walk through the gospels to discover the call that Jesus extends to all of his disciples, the call to *“Follow Me.”* What does it really mean to follow Jesus? Is it simply a matter of attending church, being a good person, or reading the Bible? In his book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoffer writes, *“When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.”* Over the course of eight weeks, we will examine the gospels to see what Christ demands when he says, *“Follow Me.”*

It is my prayer that over the course of the next several months, our lives will return to some sense of normalcy. However, I have been reminded during this pandemic that we do not know what tomorrow brings. I am encouraged by the words to the old hymn, *“Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand, but I know who holds tomorrow and I know who holds my hand.”*

Expecting Great Things,

Will

## **August & September Sermons**

### **August 2, 2020**

VBS: Foundation of Love—Matthew 9:9-13

### **August 9, 2020**

VBS: Foundation of Forgiveness—Acts 26:1-29

### **August 16, 2020**

VBS: Foundation of Worth—Matthew 26:36-46

### **August 23, 2020**

VBS: Foundation of Promise—Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20

### **August 30, 2020**

VBS: Foundation for Life—Matthew 7:24-29

### **September 6, 2020**

Follow Me: Warning—Matthew 7:13-23

### **September 13, 2020**

Follow Me: Calling—John 1:35-51

### **September 20, 2020**

Follow Me: Worthy—Luke 9:57-62

### **September 27, 2020**

Follow Me: Leave Behind—Luke 5:1-11

## *Calling Post*

**If you are not currently receiving Calling Post calls and are interested in receiving important phone calls from the church, please contact the church office to make sure you are on the call out list.  
(256.383.4078)**

## **STUDENT MINISTRY:**

Hey church family! It will be so good to see everyone when we can begin to meet regularly again.

The youth group has had to change or cancel nearly every activity we had planned for this year. That made for several disappointed teenagers, but we have tried to make our Zoom meetings as fun as possible. We have continued to meet on Zoom for Wednesday night Bible Study and also for Sunday School during this quarantine period.

We hope to be able to get the kids back together again soon, but their safety is the most important to us so we will continue with Zoom meetings rather than in person meetings until further notice. We ask that you keep our kids and teens in your prayers as they start back to school and some to extra curricular activities. They are really wanting to get out of their houses and find some normalcy again, but we want them to do that in a way that is as safe as possible.

## ***Woodward in the Word Reading Schedule.***

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| August 3rd     | Galatians 1     |
| August 4th     | Galatians 2     |
| August 5th     | Galatians 3     |
| August 6th     | Galatians 4     |
| August 7th     | Galatians 5     |
| August 10th    | Galatians 6     |
| August 11th    | Colossians 1    |
| August 12th    | Colossians 2    |
| August 13th    | Colossians 3    |
| August 14th    | Colossians 4    |
| August 17th    | 2 Samuel 1      |
| August 18th    | 2 Samuel 2      |
| August 19th    | 2 Samuel 3      |
| August 20th    | 2 Samuel 4      |
| August 21st    | 2 Samuel 5      |
| August 24th    | 2 Samuel 6      |
| August 25th    | 2 Samuel 7      |
| August 26th    | 2 Samuel 8      |
| August 27th    | 2 Samuel 9      |
| August 28th    | 2 Samuel 10     |
| August 31st    | 2 Samuel 11     |
| September 1st  | 2 Samuel 12     |
| September 2nd  | 2 Samuel 13     |
| September 3rd  | 2 Samuel 14     |
| September 4th  | 2 Samuel 15     |
| September 7th  | 2 Samuel 16     |
| September 8th  | 2 Samuel 17     |
| September 9th  | 2 Samuel 18     |
| September 10th | 2 Samuel 19     |
| September 11th | 2 Samuel 20     |
| September 14th | 2 Samuel 21     |
| September 15th | 2 Samuel 22     |
| September 16th | 2 Samuel 23     |
| September 17th | 2 Samuel 24     |
| September 21st | 1 Corinthians 1 |
| September 22nd | 1 Corinthians 2 |
| September 23rd | 1 Corinthians 3 |
| September 24th | 1 Corinthians 4 |
| September 25th | 1 Corinthians 5 |
| September 28th | 1 Corinthians 6 |
| September 29th | 1 Corinthians 7 |
| September 30th | 1 Corinthians 8 |

## *Welcome*

### *New Members*

*Jake Farris-Letter (3/15/2020)*

*Caraline Pigg-Baptism (3/15/2020)*

*Jay Kilgore-Baptism (3/20/2020)*

*Susie Ray-Letter (3/22/2020)*

*Tim Ray-Letter (3/22/2020)*

*Joyce Richardson-Letter (5/24/2020)*

*Phil Richardson-Letter (5/24/2020)*

## **FROM YOUR WORSHIP PASTOR:**

During this time when we are unable to meet together in person, I have greatly missed our weekly Worship Choir and Praise Team rehearsals. Wednesday nights just aren't the same without our weekly time of worship together!

Despite missing our Choir and Praise Team, I have greatly enjoyed our weekly Zoom Bible Study and Prayer Time. We are currently studying various Psalms, which just happens to be my favorite book in the Bible. I find the Psalms to be both a source of refreshing and a compass for walking in The Way. It is amazing the way they give voice to the entirety to the spectrum of human emotion, the way they put into words exactly what we are feeling.

Over the years, I have gobbled up resource after resource on this treasured book. As we walk through the Psalms together through the end of the year, I wanted to share with you a few of my favorites. Because the Psalms are songs, I'll begin this month with some of my favorite musical resources.

### 1) Psalms by Sandra McCracken

I cannot speak highly enough of this album. Hopefully you remember Sandra from her concert here at Woodward, at which she played many of these songs. You will also recognize several of these songs from our worship services, including the Worship Choir favorite "We Will Feast in the House of Zion." These songs have been the soundtrack for good times and bad times in my family, and in every season have pointed us to the truth.

### 2) Psalms LP by Robbie Seay Band

This album was released as a series of EP's and features word-for-word settings of specific Psalm passages. Often these projects opt for the most familiar Psalms, but RSB delves into both Psalms you will immediately recognize and others you will want to look up after you find yourself singing along.

### 3) Psalm Songs, Vol. I & II by The Corner Room

This is another word-for-word project, and these guys happen to be from Alabama! I personally enjoy volume II more than volume I, but both are excellent settings of various Psalms. Highlights include the multi song treatment of Psalm 139 and an energetic and celebratory setting of Psalm 100, both found on volume II

### 4) Psalms, Vol. 2 by Shane & Shane

You will once again recognize a tune or two from our worship services. This a powerful collection, perhaps the most varied musically of any on this list. Despite its musical adventurousness, it still unashamedly communicates the truth of the Psalms. It doesn't hurt that these guys are great singers.

### 5) Come to Me by Wendell Kimbrough

Wendell is a worship pastor from the Mobile area who specializes in singing the Psalms. This album is a great soundtrack for our current season of waiting, and even features a guest appearance from Sandra McCracken, bringing this list full circle. Wendell does a great job of balancing the tension of longing for the Kingdom with rejoicing in the waiting.

I hope you will get to know these albums and that they deepen your appreciation of the Psalms!

Grace & Peace,  
Timmy



## Thank you Notes Received

Dear WABC Family,  
Thank you for the beautiful flowers sent for mother's service. This church meant so much to her and she was blessed to be a part of it. Thank you also for the many prayers for our family as we deal with this loss.  
Family of Nell Stansell (3/11/2020)

To the WABC Members,  
We want to say thank you for all of the help and support you have given us. We are grateful for every gift, big and small, and for all the prayers, love and good wishes.  
Sincerely,  
The Kirks (Dylan & Kali) 3/17/2020

My Dear Church Family,  
Thank you for your prayers & sympathy shown to me & my family during the death of my son-in-law. Continue to pray for my family & for strength for them to cope with this tragedy

The beautiful floral basket you sent made us smile. Will was wonderful to guide me and pray with me.

Pray for our country.  
Love, Martha Brackeen & Family (6/4/2020)

WABC,  
Thank you for the beautiful plant. I will think of my Mom every time I see it.  
Tim (& Sheila) Holland (6/8/2020)

Thank you for the beautiful plant. We will miss Mama but we know she is happy and not hurting.  
Thank you,  
Darla Tate Brown, Kayla Tate Conley & Betty Kate Tate (6/24/2020)

WABC Family,  
Thank you for the beautiful plant and prayers. Daddy was blessed with a long happy life.  
God Bless you,  
Tricia Starkey & the Colburn Family (7/21/2020)

I struggle to find the words to express my gratitude to our Church Family for all the thoughts and prayers we received during the last few days. It will be in my heart forever.  
May God bless Woodward Avenue Baptist church.  
Jacob Pennington & Family (8/10/2020)

## SCHEDULE

### Sunday

Sunday School .....9:15 a.m.  
(Call the Church Office for Info.)  
Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.  
(Worship Center & Online)  
Children's Bible Study.....5:30 p.m.  
(Zoom App)  
Student Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.  
(Student's Zoom App)

### Wednesday

Adult Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.  
(Zoom App)  
Student Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.  
(Student's Zoom App)

**VIEW SERVICES LIVE AT:  
[www.woodwardavenuebaptist.org/watch-us-live](http://www.woodwardavenuebaptist.org/watch-us-live)**

**ZOOM APP LOGIN:  
Meeting ID: 8013834078  
Password: WABC**

**STUDENT ZOOM APP LOGIN:  
Meeting ID: 3453397922  
(No Password required)**

### DEACON OF THE WEEK

**September 6th:** Roger Balentine  
**September 13th:** David Mayo  
**September 20th:** Jerry Plaxco  
**September 27th:** Phil Richardson

**A list of our active Deacons and their phone numbers is available on the table in the Welcome Center**

### Your Staff:

**Pastor.....Dr. William Rushing**  
**Worship Pastor.....Timmy Ray**  
**Director of Student Ministries.....Clint Perry**  
**Director of Children's Ministries.....Nikki Vinson**  
**Nursery Coordinator.....Jenny Booser**  
**Financial/Administrative Assistant...Sheila Holland**  
**Facility Assistant.....Tammy Kirk**  
**Publication Secretary.....Cassia Mathis**  
**Media Assistant.....Tony Bush**

256.383.4078

[www.woodwardavenuebaptist.org](http://www.woodwardavenuebaptist.org)