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# First Baptist Church Builder

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**Volume 83 Issue 3**

**March 28 2025**

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Grace and peace to you!

As we kick off the spring season as a church, there are a few things I want to make sure you are aware of before our next quarterly business meeting (April 27).

**SBC Annual Meeting-** The annual meeting for the Southern Baptist Convention is on June 8-11 in Dallas, TX this year. Our church is afforded 12 messengers. Tori and I both plan to attend, so if we wanted to, we could send an additional 10 messengers to represent our church. We need to approve these messengers at the meeting on April 27, so if you are interested in attending, please let me know before that day.

**Sunday evening series-** I have a Sunday evening series planned from April 27-June 30. This will be a 7-week series (with breaks for Mother's Day, Father's Day, and the SBC Annual Meeting). The title of the series will be "Jesus Is..." and the focus will be Christology, the study of the person and work of Jesus Christ. Please plan on joining with the rest of the church on those Sunday evenings for a potluck meal, warm fellowship, and to learn more about Christ our Lord.

**Associate Pastor Search-** When I first joined this church as your pastor, I was told there were some funds set aside for the hire of an Associate Pastor whenever we were ready to begin that search. Well, after contemplating this for some time and evaluating the needs of our church, I believe that the time is now. I have found that most of my time and energy in pastoral work has gone to preparation for preaching and teaching as well as pastoral care (hospital visits, funerals, counseling sessions). The aspects of ministry to which I have not been able to devote as much time are outreach and discipleship. For this reason, it is my view that it would be wise and beneficial to call an Associate Pastor whose main focus would be those areas.

On April 27 at the quarterly business meeting, you will have an opportunity to voice any considerations or ask any questions about this proposal. You will also be presented a committee, nominated by the Admin Board per the church bylaws, for your approval as a church. This committee will work alongside me to further define and refine what this potential Associate Pastor's role would be, present that to the church, and then commence with the search for a man to fill this position should the church be

in agreement. This could be a very important step concerning the future of our church, so please be in prayer for this and plan on attending the quarterly meeting.

**A Translation Change-** I would like to close this Builder Article by informing you that I am changing the Bible translation that I will be regularly preaching and teaching from. I have used the English Standard Version (ESV) for the entirety of my pastorate so far, but after much thought and consideration, I am transitioning to the Legacy Standard Bible (LSB), which is the most recent revision of the New American Standard Bible (NASB).



A quick summary of my view concerning translations- While there is no such thing as a true "word-for-word" translation of the Bible (that would be unreadable in

English because of the nature of languages), every translation falls somewhere on the spectrum between "Formal Equivalence," which is closer to "word-for-word," and "Functional Equivalence," which is closer to "thought-for-thought."

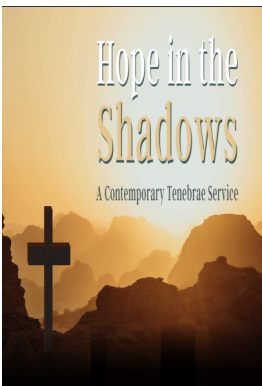
- I *strongly prefer* those that are more on the side of Formal Equivalence (word-for-word), because I believe this approach preserves and conveys the original meaning much better. Examples include the LSB, ESV, KJV, and NKJV.
- I *find it acceptable* to use some translations that take the Functional Equivalence (thought-for-thought) approach because I recognize that they do not stray too far from the original language, and can be a little smoother in English. However, I do think this approach comes with more problems and for that reason I do not prefer these translations. Examples include the NIV and NLT.
- I *warn against* using paraphrases of the Bible that are not true translations. These are sometimes seen as translations, but are not actually translated from the Hebrew and Greek, but are instead paraphrases of other translations. This means that you are getting someone's summary of God's Word rather than a translation of what the authors actually wrote. Examples include The Message and the Living Bible.

With that in mind, the reason I am moving to the LSB rather than the ESV, even though I believe the ESV is a

(Continued on page 3)

# We Are God's Masterpiece

*Dr. Bryan Bolton, Minister of Music and Children*



**Good Friday Worship: Hope in the Shadows**  
**April 18, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.**

We invite you to a solemn and reflective Good Friday Worship Service on April 18, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The service begins with an organ prelude at 5:45 pm, setting the tone for this sacred time of remembrance.

*Hope in the Shadows* by Joel Raney and Lloyd Larson, is a moving collection that journeys through Christ's final hours. Through scripture, narration, and powerful music, this work leads us from the darkness of the cross to the hope found in Christ's sacrifice.

Come and worship as we reflect on the depth of Christ's love and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

**Book Summary: Parenting in the Pew**

In *Parenting in the Pew*, Robbie Castleman encourages parents and grandparents to see worship as an opportunity to disciple their children rather than simply manage their behavior. She offers practical advice on helping kids engage meaningfully in church services, transforming worship from a passive experience into a vibrant, shared journey of faith. With biblical wisdom and real-life examples, Castleman challenges families to cultivate a heart for worship in their children, teaching them to encounter God in a real and joyful way. This book equips parents and grandparents with tools to nurture a love for worship that will last a lifetime.



**Special Gift for FirstKids Families!**

To support families in guiding their children toward meaningful worship, we are giving away a free copy of *Parenting in the Pew* to all families with kids or grandkids in the FirstKids Ministry!



Baking Up a Better Ministry

**Attention FirstKids Sunday School, Nursery, and Extended Teaching Care Volunteers!**

You are invited to the **Frosting & Feedback: Baking Up a Better Ministry!** meeting for a time of encouragement, reflection, and of course, cupcakes! We will gather this Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 4:00 pm in Room 202.

This will be a fun and meaningful time to share insights, discuss what is working well, and brainstorm ways to improve our ministry. Plus, there will be delicious cupcakes to enjoy!



**SAVE THE DATE!!**

Vacation Bible School will be here before you know it! The date for our One Day VBS is **June 21, 2025 from**

**9:00 am to 1:00 pm.** We are excited and expectant for how God will work at VBS 2025 - Magnified; discovering the bigness of God in the smallest of things!

**For more information, visit [www.fbcpinebluff.org/vbs](http://www.fbcpinebluff.org/vbs).**

Be thinking about how you can help with this very important summer event!



**“Like” us on Facebook!**

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[www.facebook.com/themusicministry](http://www.facebook.com/themusicministry)

**Deacon of the Week**

**KENNY BONDS**

April 6, 2025

**TROY COLE**

April 13, 2025

**DAN CROWDER**

April 20, 2025

**LARRY DANIEL**

April 27, 2025

**First Record**

**March 2, 2025**

Budget Needs .....	\$11,964.98
Budget Receipts .....	\$23,725.00
TV Receipts .....	\$670.00
Capital Needs & Repairs .....	\$125.00
Other .....	\$2,270.75
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$26,790.75</b>

**March 9, 2025**

Budget Needs .....	\$11,964.98
Budget Receipts .....	\$6,665.00
TV Receipts .....	\$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs .....	\$1,425.00
Other .....	\$1,425.00
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$8,645.00</b>

**March 16, 2025**

Budget Needs .....	\$11,964.98
Budget Receipts .....	\$8,300.00
TV Receipts .....	\$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs .....	\$100.00
Other .....	\$696.75
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$9,101.75</b>

**March 23, 2025**

Budget Needs .....	\$11,964.98
Budget Receipts .....	\$5,665.00
TV Receipts .....	\$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs .....	\$75.00
Other .....	\$765.00
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$6,510.00</b>

The Admin. Board will meet on  
Sunday, April 13 at 4:00 pm

The Deacons will meet on  
Sunday, April 13 at 5:00 pm

Sunday, April 13, 2025  
will be



**SUNDAY**

*Undesignated offering  
will go to  
Neighbor to Neighbor.*

**Evening Service at  
Trinity Village**

Sunday, April 27, 4:00 pm  
Trinity Village Great Hall

**Thank You**

Dear Pine Bluff First Baptist-Hall  
Trust,

Thank you so much for your re-  
cent generous donations of \$4,749.66.  
We are so grateful for your giving  
hearts and appreciate your walking  
alongside us as we strive to help build,  
strengthen, restore Arkansas families  
for God's glory.

Blessings,  
Sherry Brooks, ABCFM

*(Continued from page 1)*  
perfectly fine translation, is because  
as I study the original Biblical  
languages more, I have become more  
convinced that the LSB is the best  
modern translation. Here are three  
reasons I have come to prefer the  
LSB over the ESV:

1. Stronger, more accurate word choices- While every word in any language has a range of meaning, which makes translation difficult, I have found that the translation choices the LSB makes concerning certain words are preferable to the ESV. For example, the LSB consistently uses the name "Yahweh" in the Old Testament where it is found in the Hebrew text, which is more accurate and personal than the ESV's substitute "Lord," and it consistently translates the Greek word "doulos" to mean "slave," which is more accurate than the ESV's "servant."
2. Better grammatical choices- Each language is structured differently, and has different grammatical rules, which is an additional challenge when it comes to translation. But I found that the LSB does a better job at preserving the grammar of the Hebrew and Greek texts when possible. For example, the LSB consistently translates Greek participles as English participles,

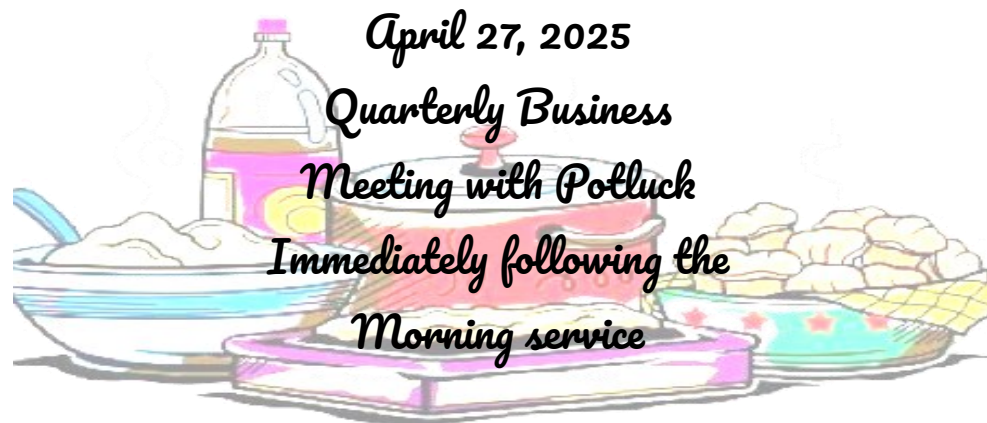
whereas the ESV will frequently translate Greek participles as English verbs.

3. More overall consistency- The word "consistent" has already come up in both of the previous points, which goes to show that the LSB is really just more consistent in its translation choices altogether. More specifically, I have noticed that sometimes the ESV will translate the same word used in the same way by the same author slightly differently each time. The LSB does not do this, but sticks with the same English word if the author is using the same Greek word in the same way.

If you have come to prefer the ESV, I believe it is still a very good translation, and I am not suggesting that you need to switch. If you still use a different translation, not the ESV or LSB, consider the points I made above, but I believe that is fine too. But I did want to take some time and explain why I am switching, as I am sure you will notice when I preach on Sunday.

I am looking forward to the Easter season with you as we celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ! As always, it is a privilege to be your pastor.

In Christ,  
Bro. Dalton Adger



### Regular Schedule for Weekly Services

**SUNDAY:**  
 6:00 am TV Broadcast on KARZ 42 (one week delay)  
 9:00 am TV Broadcast on FOX 16 (one week delay)  
 9:00 am Prayer room open  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Morning Worship Service

**MONDAY:**  
 6:00 pm Sanctuary Handbells Rehearsal

**WEDNESDAY:**  
 12:00 pm Prayer Meeting  
 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY:**  
 6:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 2:00 PM Griefshare  
 6:00 pm Griefshare

### Deacons 2025

Blasious Awonsang 318-278-4208	Roger Minyard 540-7836
Kenny Bonds 540-7001	Mac Norton 718-2895
Troy Cole 540-7393	Jim Simpson 692-3282
Dan Crowder 501-944-1236	Marc Stratton 329-6906
Larry Daniel 540-7534	Rodney Rodgers 543-9936
Lynn King 540-7400	Vernon Walker 489-2683

# News from the Pews



Keith Bolton (White Hall) and Garrett Morgan (Star City) competed in a non-conference showdown at White Hall on March 11.

**3 Ways to Give**

in person. by mail. online.

more information at [www.fbcpinebluff.org](http://www.fbcpinebluff.org)

Our website is live and online giving is available again. Listed below are the steps you should follow.

1. Click the GIVE button on our church website: [www.fbcpinebluff.org](http://www.fbcpinebluff.org)
2. Click the Give Now button.
3. Enter the amount you want to give.
4. Give to the fund pre-selected for you or choose a different fund from the drop-down menu.
5. Select a frequency.
6. Enter your email address.
7. Click CONTINUE.
8. Select your account type:  
 Credit/Debit Card  
 ACH/Checking Account

Enter your payment information to complete the transaction. You'll receive email confirmation of your gift.

If you choose ACH, be prepared to give the routing number of your bank and the account number.

### STAFF PHONE NUMBERS

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*Our 170th Year*

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