

January Birthdays 2 – Isabella Berrios Michael Gargis 3 – Natalie Smith 4 – Kacen Smith 5 – Kryssa Ruby 7 – Gaye Loris 11- James Ward 12- Kiersten Nolen 14- Travis Hillman 18- Cruz Bantancur 20 Tim Tuck Steve Woods Damien Berrios Madison Dixon 24- Tessa Blackwell 25- Walter Corn Raidyn Price 27- Billy Johnson Brittany Grammar Gary Odom 28-Christopher Robertson 29- Victoria Lewandowski 30- Charlene Conacher	First Baptist Church-1400 Nolan Trace- Leesville, LA 71446-337 239 6535-First Baptist Bulletin is published monthly by First Baptist Church- 1400 Nolan Trace, Leesville, Louisiana 71446	Non-Profit Org. US Postage Paid Leesville, LA 71446 Permit #463																				
	<u>Deacon on call</u> January 4-10, 2026 Tim Tuck 337 353 9796 January 11-17, 2026 Jack Simms 337 397 7733 January 18-24, 2026 Tommy Cannon 337 353 6058 January 25-31, 2026 Charles Bealer 337 353 3661	<div>Staff Darin Worthington, Pastor Lanny Turner, Minister of Music Rodney Blackwell, Youth Minister Kiersten Nolen, Children Minister Cherie Turner, Accompanist</div> <div>FBC State of Affairs 2026 Monthly Budget Required \$37,061.00 Total for December 2025 \$54,803.28 As of December 22, 2025-Lottie Moon offering \$6,046.00 Sunday School Report <table><tr><td></td><td>12/7</td><td>12/14</td><td>12/21</td><td>12/28</td></tr><tr><td>Members</td><td>87</td><td>75</td><td>80</td><td>70</td></tr><tr><td>Visitors</td><td>11</td><td>9</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>Worship Attendance</td><td>177</td><td>145</td><td>139</td><td>88</td></tr></table></div>		12/7	12/14	12/21	12/28	Members	87	75	80	70	Visitors	11	9	6	7	Worship Attendance	177	145	139	88
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	<div>Memorials</div> <div><div>In Memory Wallace Wilson Bruce Westmoreland Joe Westerchil Pat Bruce Wallace Wilson Bruce Westmoreland</div><div>Given By Charles & Brenda Bealer Charles & Brenda Bealer Betty Westerchil Betty Westerchil Betty Westerchil Betty Westerchil</div></div>																					



Fresh Start 2026 begins January 4, 2026

Word from Pastor Darin

As we step into a brand-new year, we thank God for His faithfulness and for the opportunity to begin again with hope and expectation. A new year reminds us that God’s mercies are new every morning, and with Him, there is always a fresh start.

Sunday, January 4, will be a special Fresh Start Sunday as we gather to worship and refocus our hearts on what God desires to do in us and through us in the coming year. This will also be Family Dedication Day, a meaningful time when families can publicly commit to raising their children in faith and allowing God to guide their homes. We encourage all families to take part in this special event.

We’re also excited to share that on Sunday, January 11, we will welcome a special guest: Dr. Steve Horn, the Executive Director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention. He will be with us to share God’s Word and encourage our church during this new season. He will also be sharing insights from his book, Change Me.

Change Me is a four-week journey of spiritual renewal, designed to help individuals and churches experience transformation from the inside out. If you’d like to follow along, copies of the book are available on Amazon. As we begin this year together, let’s pray, expect, and believe that God is doing something new among us. We look forward to worshiping with you and walking this journey of renewal together. Here’s to a new year and a fresh start in Christ!
Pastor Darin

Music Notes/Lanny Turner

Well, another year has come to a close and a new 2026 begins. It’s hard to believe that Y2K was 26 years ago! God is and continues to be faithful and true to us, which is great assurance as we step into the unknown! I always enjoy the feelings of gratitude that wash over me this time of year, and I look forward to the coming year, even with the challenges we are bound to face.

Join the Choir

Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6:45. We sing for the morning worship services on Sunday mornings.

DMA (Don’t Mention Age)

DMA is our senior adult group. There is no age minimum-we never mention it!. Yearly dues are \$25.00. (This money we collect goes toward purchasing fried chicken for our monthly luncheon, etc. Plus, in December it pays for a meal.) Typically, we meet on the 4th Thursday of each month in the CLC. Come Join Us!!
DRY CREEK FISH FRY-usually on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Cost is \$12.00 for the meal, with a program to follow. We usually ride together in the church van and leave at 10:00 sharp. We do ask that you call the church office to sign up before the previous Tuesday so we can report an accurate head count.
Happy New Year! Bro. Lanny

First Youth News

2025 has come and gone and as we take a moment to look back, I definitely want to give thanks to the Lord for allthe many blessings of this past year, for Jesus Christ our Savior and also recognize my need to be more reliant on God, His word and the revealing work of the Holy Spirit. Praise God! May it be so for me, my family and our church family.
So, Happy New Year 2026 and I look forward to working and pressing on towards the goal of Kingdom faithfulness, and kingdom building with all of you. But the only way that we can do either one of those is to strengthen our personal relationship with God our Father. My prayer is that I will draw nearer to God this year. “Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, double-minded people! James 4:8 HCSB.
The youth ministry is preparing for Fuge camp this summer and sign-up and \$125 Deposits are due now. We will be announcing fundraising initiatives very soon. In His Service, Rodney

Children’s Corner-January

We have had a great year in our Children’s Ministry and a wonderful Christmas season. Our kids enjoyed Christmas Caroling and visiting The Woodlands nursing home to spread some Christmas cheer. The kids did a great job singing for Jesus! I appreciate the different volunteers & chaperones. We were also able to have a church wide Happy Birthday Jesus party this month. It was a great time of fellowship together. Celebrating advent and the birth of our savior with different ministries of our church each week was very special. Thank you to those who helped with advent. Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service and PJ’s with the Pastor was also a great time together as always!

This month we will resume our Wednesday night children’s activities on January 7th and our Sunday night children’s activities on January 11th. We will have our annual Family Dedication Day this Sunday January 4th. This will be a great time for a “Fresh Start” in the new year for everyone! Our GA’s are starting a new mission project. We are asking if anyone has any gently used bibles/devotionals/Bible story books to donate please bring them to the church office. We will be distributing them to the Book Nooks across the parish on February 8th. We are looking forward to spreading the gospel in our community. “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”- Mark 16:15 ~With Love~ Mrs. Kiersten



Thank you Tomarchio family for opening up your beautiful home for Tapestry Ministry’s Christmas party. We truly enjoyed the night and we do appreciate you.



January 11, 2026 Dr. Steve Horn will be with us on that Sunday morning to introduce his book, Change Me: A Personal Revival Guide. Pastor Darin will be teaching a Bible study on the book for a few weeks following this introduction.

The book is available on Amazon



If you don't have a class Sarah Sunday School Class would love to have you join them. Thank you Alice and all the other contributors for our Christmas hot chocolate bar.

- "When you stop chasing the wrong things you give the right things a chance to catch you."

Isaiah 43:18-19 -
'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!'



Shopping or Eating, it doesn't get too cold for their excursions!

