

As We Serve...

Deacon of the Week

2/3—2/9 Jimmy Cruse
2/10—2/16 Stan Barger
2/17—2/23 Greg Bagley
2/24—3/2 Alan McCarty

Counting Teams

2/3 Will Jones
2/10 Stan Barger
2/17 Jim Jumper
2/24 Louise Upshaw

Parking Ministry

Everett Martin
Donnie Ray Thomas

Team Meetings & Special Events

Please see calendar enclosed with the newsletter.

*For current changes/updates made to the calendar, please look at our church web site at:

www.annistonfbc.com

And click on the calendar tab at the top of the page.

Worship Services

Sunday Morning

Meet your Teacher & Fellowship...8:30 AM
Bible Study/Sunday School...9:30 AM
Morning Worship...10:30 AM

Wednesday Evening

Supper 5:30
Prayer Service...6:00 PM
Youth...6:00PM
Choir Rehearsal...6:45 PM

Return Service Requested

Anniston, AL 36205

851 Morton Rd

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
AT McCLELLAN
ANNISTON, ALABAMA
"A SAFE HARBOR, BEAMING GOD'S LOVE"



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The Messenger

February 2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR:

Our Leadership Team was meeting and considering the church calendar a couple of weeks ago when somebody in the room noted that my second anniversary as your pastor was coming up. That wasn't something I'd thought much about, but, time doesn't wait on us, does it? Sure doesn't seem like two years since the Lord brought us together!

So I sat and thought a little about the past two years. If nothing else, I want to be a learner. Here for you to consider are **four lessons I've learned in past two years.**

ONE: I'm more sure of my call here than I was two years ago. I love being a pastor. More specifically, I love being your pastor at AFBCM. God knows exactly what He's doing. Thanks Greg, Jack, Belinda, Bobby, and Louise!

TWO: God is bonding our church together. Some things just can't be rushed. I came in as the new guy. Then God blessed us with some more new members. All along, we've added even more new folks. We are now a pretty diverse crew from all parts of Calhoun County. But, I watch you before and after our services. I watch you in your Sunday School classes. God is bonding us together. I guarantee you I see it happening. I am so grateful for that.

THREE: Decline and stagnation aren't inevitable in our churches. SO MANY churches are struggling mightily! Most denominational estimates say around 80-85% of evangelical churches are either plateaued or in decline. AFBCM is living proof that doesn't have to be the case. We've witnessed two years of growth.

FOUR: God isn't finished with AFBCM. We're a legacy church. We have a long history of faithfulness. We recognize that and honor that. But we're to be about our work in our time. God has given us this wonderful facility right in the middle of so many people! As long as God leaves us here, we've got work to do. God isn't finished with our church!

THANK YOU for two great years. You've been so kind to me and my family. I love you and I am delighted to be your pastor. I can't wait to see what the future holds for us.

Blessings-

Donnie

AFBCM STAFF:

Pastor:

Donald L. Sills
dlsills4@cablone.net
256-310-5258

Music Director:

Kelly Lenard

Worship Leader:

Jody LeRoux

Accompanist:

Jerry Sills

Youth Minister:

Mark LeRoux

Office Secretary:

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Financial Admin.:

Cody Harris

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You can also visit us on
Facebook

Office Hours:

Mon—Thurs 8 AM-4 PM
Friday— Varied

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Our Student Ministry:

“The seed in the good ground-these are the ones who, having heard the word with an honest and good heart, hold on to it and by enduring, bear fruit.”

Luke 8:15

Wow! What a kickoff into 2019! We are incredibly blessed as a church, and our student ministry at First Baptist Church at McClellan has been particularly touched by the Holy Spirit. During the first week of January, our group traveled to Springville Camp in Odenville, AL, for a three day youth retreat. Altogether, eighteen students and eight chaperones made the trip. An unfathomable amount of love, prayer, and hard work prepared the soil ahead of us. We asked our church to support us, and you went above and beyond. We asked for your prayers, and our students and leaders were absolutely bathed in them. The Lord heard the petitions of our hearts, He blessed our efforts, and no less than seven students made impactful spiritual decisions that will change their lives for the better.

Now, we celebrate these wonderful life decisions together. As a family of faith we enjoy the opportunity of watching these young students as they come before our church sharing their salvation experience, a rededication of their lives to Christ, following Jesus' example in baptism, and formally joining our church in membership. Such changes in lives are the heartbeat of a healthy and thriving church!

My personal prayer for Anniston First Baptist Church at McClellan in the new year is that we continue being faithful and obedient in God honoring work. Let us continue sowing seeds in the lives of all whom are sent our way. May we share the gospel with honest and good hearts. Let us pray for the endurance to bear fruit in kingdom work. If the Holy Spirit moving in our church blesses you then keep pressing forward! We should exhaust ourselves for the glory of the Lord.

The year is only beginning and already I feel so privileged to be a part of what God is doing. Yet, there is so much more to do and much we can accomplish. May the hand of God continue to move Anniston First Baptist Church at McClellan!

Lizi and I love you all...

Mark

Our Love & Sympathy to the Family of...

Homer Bundrum

Gifts were given in ...

Memory of Sue Paris by Hershell & Martha Williams, Billie Smith and Elizabeth Dempsey

Signs of Health for the month of December

THE PEOPLE GAVE:

General Offering.....	\$ 34,670.36
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.....	4,295.00
Baptist Children's Home.....	28.00
Partnership Missions.....	53.00
Renewing The Promise.....	1,363.00
TOTAL GIFTS	\$ 40,409.36

Special Prayers For Our Members...

McClellan Assisted Living:	Bettie Gunnells Dot Vaughn
VA Pell City	J.D. Bishop

Attendance for the month of January

THE PEOPLE CAME:

Average Weekly BIBLE STUDY Attendance	100
Average Weekly WORSHIP Attendance	129



Staff Anniversary

February 6, 2019 will be Donnie's 2nd anniversary as our Pastor. Please be sure to offer words of thanks to Donnie and Lori for all they do!



Ladies' Evening Bible Study

Thursday, February 21, @ 6:00, in the Gathering Space. We will discuss part II of radical obedience. All ladies are welcome to attend this group. No childcare will be provided, but children are welcome to sit with their parents.



Wednesday Night Supper

This month our covered dish nights will be:

February 13 & 27

Bring your favorite covered dishes and/or desserts to share!

The Bosom Buddies Cancer Support Group Will meet February 7, @ 6:00pm. Women who have been diagnosed with cancer, survivors and caregivers are invited to attend the monthly meeting.

MAKE CONNECTIONS IN AN AFBCM SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS!

- CONNECT WITH GOD'S WORD
- CONNECT WITH FRIENDS

THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU!
9:30 EVERY SUNDAY MORNING!!

Ruby Spence Prayer Group
Every Tuesday Morning at 10:00
All ladies are invited to be a part of this vital ministry.



INFORMATION CARDS ARE AVAILABLE—YOU CAN STILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NEW DIRECTORY BY FILLING OUT A CARD GIVING US YOUR PERMISSION AND PROVIDING A PHOTO—GET YOURS TODAY.

Men's Prayer Breakfast every Wednesday morning at 7:30 @ JACK'S in Lenlock and BURGER KING in Golden Springs. Please join us for a casual time of fellowship!