



First Baptist Church Montgomery

# BEACON

BRING THEM IN...BUILD THEM UP...SEND THEM OUT

Volume 78 | Week of **January 19, 2025** | Number 03



## JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

**SPECIAL GUEST:  
BRETT KUNKLE**

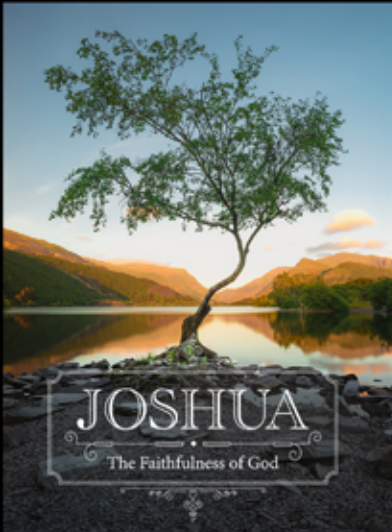
founder and president of MAVEN, a movement to equip the next generation to know truth, pursue goodness and create beauty.



Brett spoke to our students during Disciple Now, and he has a powerful word for you on Sunday!

Don't miss worship at 8:30 & 11:00 AM!

## JANUARY BIBLE STUDY



**Are you in a desert?**  
It's time to remember the promises of God.

**January 27-29**

10 AM to Noon | Fellowship Hall

*Sessions taught by:*

**Ed Cleveland**  
*Senior Adult Minister*

**Kenny Hoomes**  
*Associate Pastor*

**Jeremy Smalley**  
*Senior Pastor, Eastern Hills Baptist Church*

**Dale Huff**  
*Former FBC Pastor*

**Jay Wolf**  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Bring a friend and join us for this exciting study! Participants will receive a free study guide. Snacks, drinks, and coffee will be provided.

montgomeryfbc.org | info@montgomeryfbc.org | 334.834.6310

# CONNECTIONS

| from your  
Pastor's Heart



At the end of the year, the Wall Street Journal published an encouraging article stating that Bible sales are booming in the United States—up 22% in 2024.

At a time when Pew Research Center finds that 28% of adults in the US consider themselves religiously unaffiliated, Bible sales are rising swiftly alongside books related to religion, guidance, and context for Bible engagement.

Publishers attribute this rise to several things, including a more anxious and fretful generation grappling with answers to life's most pressing questions and solid marketing efforts to engage people with the Bible.

In the Wall Street Journal article, an individual being interviewed said, "[I] started to read the Bible this year after feeling unfilled by years of advice on self-care, staying healthy, and pursuing a career. She said she also sought stability as 'things just went off the rails a little too quickly' throughout society."

This is playing out all over the place and all around us. Folks are finding that the 'freedom' that culture has offered has continued to fall flat and leave empty.

Sadly, we've likely never been more depressed, anxious, or alone than at any other time in human history. Yet, there is a renewed hunger and desire to understand the meaning and purpose of so many of life's most pressing questions.

That's where we have good news to offer. We don't have to shy away from the biblical truth and narrative, but we can come alongside folks in their quest to know Truth.

Keep lifting up Jesus, dear brothers and sisters. You are loved and prayed for,



**MARK BETHEA**  
Senior Pastor

## FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP WEEKEND 2025

HOW THE GOSPEL SHAPES OUR HOMES

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MONTGOMERY | FEBRUARY 22-23, 2025

featuring



Adam Griffin

Chelsea Griffin

Jason Houser

REGISTER AT [MONTGOMERYFBC.ORG/FDW](https://MONTGOMERYFBC.ORG/FDW)


**PARENTS NIGHT OUT** | Friday  
February 7  
6 to 9 pm

8 weeks to 6th grade  
RSVP at [montgomeryfbc.org/event](http://montgomeryfbc.org/event)

## MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Preschool + Children's Ministries

There will be a Parent/Child Dedication on Sunday, February 23 in the 8:30 & 11:00 AM worship services. To register for this special dedication, visit [montgomeryfbc.org/dedications](http://montgomeryfbc.org/dedications) or call Tiffany Alewine at 241.5165. If you would like your baby's photo to be included in the Order of Worship that day, email a high resolution photo of your baby to [asmith@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:asmith@montgomeryfbc.org) by Sunday, February 9.

LADIES WHO READ   
**BOOK CLUB**

Tuesday, February 25 | 6:30 to 8:00 PM

**Book:** *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom  
**Discussion Leader:** Mary Ruth Wolf  
**Where:** Home of Melanie Pace (6276 Thach Road)

Mark your calendar and make plans to join us as we discuss our third "heroes of the faith" book. All ladies invited! Happy Reading!

### Wednesday Night Supper | January 22



**Children:** Butter Pasta, Fruit, Dessert

**Adults:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, Broccoli, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert

**Adult Meal – \$5; Child's Meal** (12 & under) – \$3

**Family Amount – \$20** (2 adults and children under 12 living in the same household)

## Music Ministry

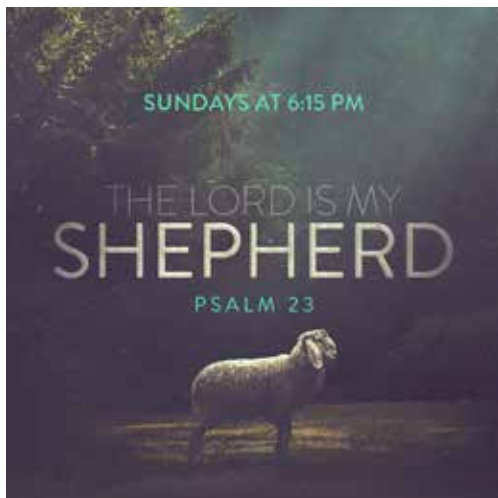
**It's a great time to jump into the Music Ministry!** The choir and orchestra will begin preparations for Palm Sunday and Easter on Wednesday, January 22. The orchestra rehearses at 5:45 PM in the main sanctuary and the choir meets at 6:45 PM in the Roper Music Suite. For more information, contact Brad Brand at [bbrand@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:bbrand@montgomeryfbc.org).

## Missions Ministry

**The 2025 Missions Menu is now available!** Pick up your copy in the welcome center or online at [montgomeryfbc.org/mission-projects](http://montgomeryfbc.org/mission-projects).

## FBC Foundation

**2025-2026 First Baptist Foundation Scholarship Applications are available now.** All completed applications must be returned by Monday, March 31. For an application, visit [montgomeryfbc.org/foundation](http://montgomeryfbc.org/foundation) or email Alissa Parrish at [aparrish@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:aparrish@montgomeryfbc.org).



## NEW MEMBERS

### By Baptism

**Mr. James Johnson**

100 Perry Hill Road  
Montgomery, AL 36109

**Clary Elizabeth McClendon**

334 Doe Run Court  
Pike Road, AL 36064

**Mr. Will Hughes**

**Mrs. Will Hughes (Jacqueline)**

**Mary Winsett Hughes**

**Welden Hughes**

**William Hughes**

48 Waterscapes Drive  
Pike Road, AL 36064

### By Letter/Statement of Faith

**Ms. Vickie Hooks**

554 Gardendale Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36110

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, contact Carolyn Bryan at 241.5120 or [cbryan@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:cbryan@montgomeryfbc.org).

### Sympathy Extended to

Family and friends in the death of Mary Ann Hannah

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Morris (Stephanie) in the death of her mother and uncle

Mr. & Mrs. Buddy Tiller (Beppy) in the death of her cousin

Ms. Beth Green in the death of her uncle

### Baptist South

Tommy Jones

### UAB Medical Center

Donny Robinson

### Capitol Hill Healthcare

Terry Yarbrough

### Crowne Healthcare

Jeanette Martin

### Encompass

Joyce Vaughn · Mary Dudley

### Hillview Terrace

Lillian Wilkinson

### John Knox Manor Rehab

Barbara Smith

### Oak Crest Health & Wellness

Robert Smith



# WINTER DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

It's not too late to join a class!

## SUNDAYS

Becoming His Vessel: The Power

4:30 PM // B415 // Jo & Keith Hancock

GriefShare

4:45 PM // B416 // Ben Kelley and Barry Bledsoe

Return to Mayberry

5:00 PM // B405 // Doug & Lori Rogers

Engage: Exploring Philosophy, Christian Apologetics and the Power of the Gospel

5:00 PM // 443 // Dr. Matt Burford and Dr. Sammy Gilbreath

Love and Respect: Building Blocks

5:00 PM // B408 // Mike & Brenda Rowell

Baptist Faith and Message: Our Statement of Faith

5:00 PM // B412 // Mike Nuss and Stephen Renner

## WEDNESDAYS

Divorce Care

6:00 PM // B415 // Robert Gassman

Parenting: Ownership Road

6:00 PM // B402 // Tommy McGregor

For a complete list with descriptions and to register, visit

[montgomeryfbc.org/discipleship](https://montgomeryfbc.org/discipleship)

*Interested in joining First Baptist? Want to know more?*

**DISCOVER**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 26**  
9:45 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

**REGISTER AT MONTGOMERYFBC.ORG/DISCOVER**

# FBC FAITHFULNESS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

## ATTENDANCE

**Bible Fellowship: Enrollment** 3461 | **Attendance** 1257

**Weekly Attendance** 1445 | **Discipleship Attendance** 807

## OFFERING

**Required Weekly** \$140,519.23 | **Received Sunday** \$79,695.80

**Required To Date** \$281,038.46 | **Received To Date** \$139,721.19

## THIS WEEK AT FBC

Visit [montgomeryfbc.org](http://montgomeryfbc.org) for the complete calendar of events.

### Sunday, January 19

Disciple Now

- 7:45 Prayer Time (*Welcome Center*)
- 8:30 Worship Service
- 9:45 Bible Fellowship
- 10:00 Pastor's Class
- 11:00 Worship Service
- 4:00 Reflections Rehearsal
- 4:45 Griefshare
- 5:00 Discipleship Classes  
Preschool + Children's Missions  
One Heart + One Voice Choir Rehearsals
- 6:00 Bible Drill + Bible Buddies
- 6:15 Worship Service
- 8:00 Daily Prayer Time (*virtual*)

### Monday, January 20

- 10:00 JOY Singers Rehearsal
- 5:30 Men's Bible Study
- 7:00 College Ministry: The Gathering
- 8:00 Daily Prayer Time (*virtual*)

### Tuesday, January 21

- 8:30 English as a Second Language
- 9:30 Ladies Bible Study
- 11:30 Women's Ministry New Member Lunch
- 7:00 Helen Hancock WOM Group
- 8:00 Daily Prayer Time (*virtual*)

### Wednesday, January 22

- 8:30 English as a Second Language
- 2:15 Baldwin Bible Study
- 5:00 First Family Dinner
- 5:15 Tutoring
- 5:45 Sanctuary Orchestra
- 6:00 First Family Prayer Time  
Preschool + Children's Choirs  
Divorce Care  
Parenting: Ownership Road
- 6:40 Finance Committee
- 6:45 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Student Ministry: Powerhouse
- 8:00 Daily Prayer Time (*virtual*)

### Thursday, January 23

- 9:00 Conversational English
- 8:00 Daily Prayer Time (*virtual*)

### Friday, January 24

- 6:45 Friday Morning Men's Group
- 6:30 Kilby Correctional Facility Service
- 8:00 Daily Prayer Time (*virtual*)

### Saturday, January 25

- 8:00 Daily Prayer Time (*virtual*)

## IN-HOME MINISTRY MEMBERS

### Al & Susan Smith

100 Perry Hill Road, Room 313  
Montgomery, AL 36109

305 South Perry Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104



First Baptist Church  
Montgomery

## JANUARY

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:13

First Baptist Church Montgomery  
20 | SCRIPTURE  
25 | MEMORY

download resources at [montgomeryfbc.org/scripture](http://montgomeryfbc.org/scripture)

## Broadcast Schedule

**Frazer Channel 13** (*Montgomery & Prattville*)

**BrightHouse Channel 122** (*Elmore County*)

**Full Hour:** Sunday, 12:00 PM & 6:00 PM

**Half Hour:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 6:00 PM

**WSFA-TV Channel 12**

**Half Hour:** Sunday, 10:30 AM

The **Beacon** (USPS #046-620) is published and printed weekly by First Baptist Church, 305 South Perry Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104-4292. Periodical postage paid at Montgomery, Alabama. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Beacon, 305 South Perry Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104-4292.