OCTOBER 2026

The Good News

A Place Where Everyone Belongs

Are you raising a child with special needs and longing for a place where your whole family can worship, grow, and learn about Jesus together?

We know getting through the church doors isn't always simple. Crowded hallways can feel overwhelming. Loud music can be too much. Sitting quietly through a lesson designed for a certain age may not be realistic. And before you ever walk through the doors, you may already be wondering: Will they understand my child? Will my child be safe? Is there really a place here for us?

At First Baptist Starkville, we want the answer to that last question to be an overwhelming yes. That is the heart behind The Harbor Special Needs Ministry.

Through Sunday Community Groups, Worship Service Care, and Wednesday night discipleship, The Harbor provides a safe, loving environment where individuals with special needs can learn about Jesus through music, art, stories, play, and meaningful relationships.

While they are learning and growing, families have the opportunity to worship, connect, and grow alongside their church family. At The Harbor, individuals with special needs are not simply being cared for while everyone else goes to church. They are a beloved part of the church.

THE HARBOR

Children's Building, 2nd Floor.

SUN | 9:30 AM COMMUNITY GROUP **SUN | 11:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE** **WED | 6:00 PM MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY**

Welcome New Members.

DONNA WOLFE
ALBERT WOLFE
BRITTEN WHITTINGTON
CHRIS O' DONNELL
KRISTEN O'DONNELL
LORIANNA BILLINGTON
ROSS BILLINGTON
ANSLEY RIGDON
JONES BURKS
JAMES SUMMERLIN
PHIL DUCKWORTH
EMRY EILAND DUCKWORTH
GAIL CUMMINS
RHONDA LOCKE

Mark Your Calendars









COLLEGE MINISTRY SNAPSHOTS

DINNER WITH DR. KEENUM & GROCERY GAMES



BAPTISMS

Celebrating New Life in Christ



We rejoice with our brothers and sisters who have taken this important step of faith.
May God continue to guide and bless you on your new journey in Him.
Congratulations: Derek & Emersyn Klipstein, Aubrey Coats and Zeke Ross

PARENT DEDICATION



In September we celebrated six Parent Dedications and watched families publicly commit to raising their children to know, love, and follow Jesus. Congratulations to the Botts, Franks, Hickey, Johnston, Shealy and Clay families.

Fall Festival to Replace Trunk or Treat

After many wonderful years of Trunk or Treat, we're looking forward to starting a new fall tradition at FBC Starkville. Join us for a Fall Festival on Sunday, November 15, from 4–6pm!

There will be plenty for everyone to enjoy, including a trackless train, bounce houses, a petting zoo, a cake walk, face painting, a Chili Cook-Off, and hot dogs. Bring the whole family, invite a neighbor, and enjoy a fall afternoon together.

We'll also need volunteers to help with games, food, and activities. If you'd like to be part of making the fall festival happen, please register HERE. If you'd like to participate in the Chili Cook-Off, please register HERE. We hope to see you there!

Sunday, November 15

Mark Your Calendar



G.R.O.W.
Quarterly Business Meeting
4-5 PM

FBC Hosts International MSU Students



In September, FBC was excited to host the All Nations Worship Luncheon. Eight countries were represented at the event with over eighty participants for the ultimate international tailgate.

BUDGET APPROVED

The 2027 Proposed Budget of $4,159,350 was approved by congregational vote on September 27. Of the new budget, $415,935 is dedicated to the Cooperative Program and $30,000 for MSU's Baptist Student Union. Join with us to reach students in Starkville and beyond with the gospel. Click here to give.



Reed Edwards

Intern

Reed Edwards, a junior at Starkville High School, is serving this semester through our Church Administration Internship. With a desire to become a pastor, Reed wanted to gain an up-close understanding of the true workings of a church and the many people and systems that support its ministry.

His current focus is production and event technology. From the special lighting at our 521 College & Young Adult service to Sunday morning cameras, sound, software, and multi-platform broadcasts, Reed is seeing firsthand how technology helps us share the gospel beyond the walls of the church.

“Epic!” is how Reed describes the experience so far. He has been especially impressed by the advanced technology, skilled production team, and thoughtful ways our church is exploring AI as a ministry support tool. Reed hopes to learn the value of every ministry field and how each part supports the whole mission of the church.

MONTHLY EVENTS

Oct 2
Grocery Games
for College Students

Oct 4
The Lord’s Supper
for All Members

Oct 11
New Member Class
for Interested in membership

Oct 18
Baptism
Open for All

Oct 18
Business Meeting
for All Members

Oct 16-18
NOLA Mission Team
New Orleans

For details about the above, visit the events page at fbcstarkville.com

PASTOR OF WORSHIP MINISTRY SEARCH COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED

The Pastor of Worship Ministry Search Committee has been formed and is actively seeking the right candidate to serve as our permanent Pastor of Worship Ministries.

Please join us in praying for the committee and for God’s guidance throughout the search process.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

The committee includes Robbie Faulk, Chairperson, Amber Sims, Tyler Jumper, Blake Smith, Anita Dean, Chelsi Brasher, Evan Eddington, Henry Fyke and Jessica Wells.

If you know someone who may be interested in this position, the full job description and application information can be found at the bottom of the homepage at fbcstarkville.com or click HERE.



“To every thing there is a season.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1





God Is Growing Our 9:30 Service!

It's only been two months since we launched our new 9:30 service, and we already have so much to celebrate! Each Sunday, 250–300 people are gathering at 9:30 to worship, grow, and hear the truth of God's Word. That's a congregation larger than many rural churches and a beautiful reminder that God is doing great things at FBC Starkville!

Let's keep inviting. Keep making room. Keep reaching out. Scripture reminds us, "How can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?" (Romans 10:14). Every invitation is an opportunity for someone to hear the Gospel and every seat represents a life God can change.

Who can you invite this Sunday?

Building Relationships Beyond Sunday

Our College Ministry recently took 65 students to Ocoee, Tennessee, where 11 rafts full of students spent the day navigating the rapids and building relationships along the way! This year, freshmen were able to participate at a discounted cost as part of an intentional effort to help new students connect early and begin forming meaningful relationships within our church family. Trips like this are about much more than a fun day together. They create shared experiences, strengthen friendships, and open the door for ongoing discipleship and deeper spiritual connections throughout the college years. We're grateful for the opportunity to invest in these students and excited to see how God continues to grow these relationships!

