

THIS WEEK @ BPC

TODAY
 9:00 AM Sunday School
 9:55 AM Worship Service
MONDAY Happy New Year!
SATURDAY
 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Sunday School - Winter Quarter: This quarter Walt Herrington is leading a study called *Facing the Final Enemy: the Christian and Death*. It will be based primarily on a Guy Waters course & book of the same name. Please join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Evening Service: There will be no Evening Service tonight.

New Officer Elections: This is the last day to make Officer nominations for deacon and elder. Nomination forms are in the church office. (After filling it out, place it in the box marked nominations; which is also in the church office.)

After years of faithful service for which we are deeply grateful, Jackie Thompson, Walt Herrington, and Gary Morrison have decided to assume emeritus status once the new officers are elected in August 2024. Please join us in thanking the Lord for these men. And please prayerfully consider who you might want to nominate for these important offices.

2023 Giving: Any contributions you would like to have credited to your 2023 giving statement must be postmarked, given online, or delivered to the church before tomorrow, Jan 1st, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Luther via email: luther@brandonpres.com or (601) 209-0231.

2024 Offering Envelopes: Please pick up your 2024 Offering Envelopes on the bookshelf in the breezeway.

Communion: Please prepare your heart to receive the Lord's Supper next Sunday, January 7, 2024.

Wednesday Night Fellowship: Starting Wednesday, January 10th, we will have weekly dinners from 5:30-6:30 PM followed by activities for all ages 6:30 -7:30 PM. Meals start at \$5 a person with a \$15 cap for families of three or more. 5th Wednesdays will be pot luck Wednesdays. The children and youth will be meeting after supper and there will also be two adult studies. One for women taught by Lisa Hellier and one for men taught by Jim Hellier. Two nursery volunteers will be needed at 6:20 PM each Wednesday.

byFaith Magazines : New byFaith magazines are ready for pickup in the breezeway.

Flower Calendar: The 2024 flower calendar has been posted on the bulletin board. If you have a date you prefer please sign up early to reserve that date. Thank you to all who provided flowers for church services this year.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School: Classes for 2 years - 6th grade meet each Sunday at 9:00 AM.
Wednesday Night: Children's activities will resume Wednesday, January 10th from 5:30-7:30 PM. The Children will be studying the catechism.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Bell Ringer: Lou Woods **Next Week:** Nolan Blakeney

Nursery: Dee Dee Stowers/ **PM:** No Sunday Evening Service
Next Week: Emily Lee (SS), Dee Dee Stowers (WS)/Amy Kaiser **PM:**
December: All Coordinators **January:** Davida Curtis

Children's Church: Becky Inman **Next week:** Gray Ouzts & Jackson Smith

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday School: Jr and Sr. High classes meet upstairs at 9:00 AM every Sunday.
Youth Fellowship: Youth Group resumes meeting on Wed., January 10th at 5:30 PM.

Sermon Notes
 "In the Fullness of Time"
 Luke 2:1-25

STAFF

Brad Mills - Pastor: brad@brandonpres.com
Brian Smith - Director of Youth Ministry: brian@brandonpres.com
Nate & Susan Inman - Directors of Children's Ministry:
childrensministry@brandonpres.com
Marsha Glover - Music Director: mcglover1451@bellsouth.net
Jacquelyn Thornell - Organist: jsthornell@bellsouth.net
Luther Stowers - Treasurer: luther@brandonpres.com
Barbara Sanchez - Secretary: secretary@brandonpres.com

OFFICERS

Elders: RE Scotty Dickey, RE Walt Herrington, RE Gary Morrison,
 RE Jim Neill, RE Jackie Thompson, RE Nat Whitten

Deacons: Chris Groebe, Nate Inman, Eric Napier, Andrew Rush, Brian Smith,
 Luther Stowers, John Thompson, Darrin Tolar

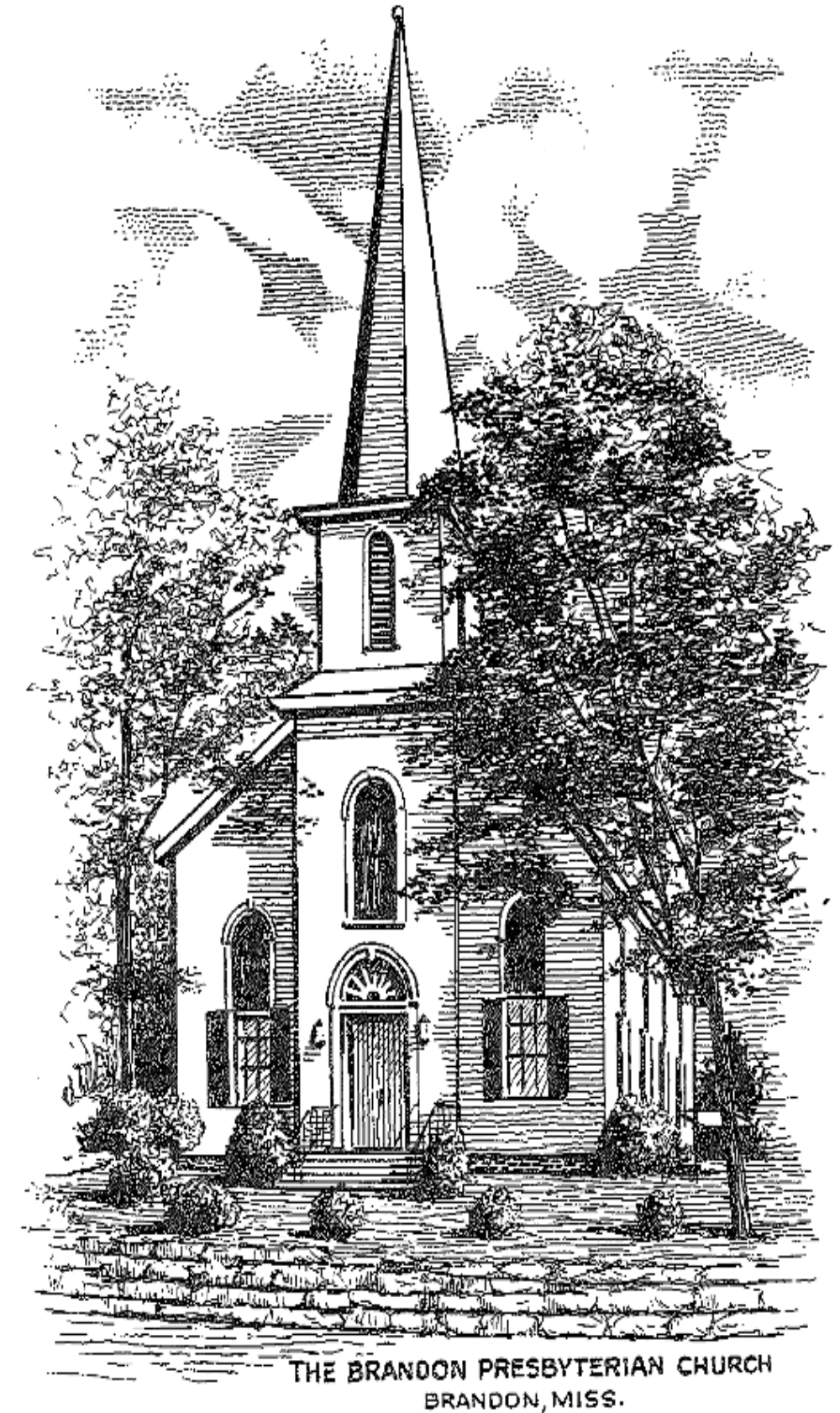
Officers Emeritus:
Elders: Charlie Moak, Elton Jay, Jim McBrayer †
Deacons: John McInnis †, Ken Bramlett †, Edsel Parks †, Richard Harrison

Women's Ministry

Dickey Shepherding Group: Angela McInnis, Ruth Lathem
 Herrington Shepherding Group: Camille Herrington, Jo Stanford
 Morrison Shepherding Group: Kerri Matthews, Carole Morrison,
 Neill Shepherding Group: Melinda Neill, Becky Inman
 Thompson Shepherding Group: Mary Thompson, Jeanne Monsour
 Whitten Shepherding Group: Julie Huddleston, Elizabeth Pinkerton
 Flower Coordinator - Sonia Jay: esjay@att.net

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God.

To Our Visitors	<p>We are pleased to have you worship with us. Our church doors are open as wide as the Gospel: <i>"For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"</i> Romans 10:13</p>
	<p>Please fill out a visitor's card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher at the end of the service. Let an usher know if you have any questions.</p>



1870

*"The Church's One Foundation
 Is Jesus Christ, Her Lord..."*

Morning Worship

The Lord's Day, December 31, 2023

During the prelude, please prepare your heart to worship our gracious, Almighty God together.

Meditation

MARTIN LUTHER

“When they [Mary and Joseph] arrived at Bethlehem, they were the most insignificant and despised...No one noticed or was conscious of what God was doing in that stable. He lets the large houses and costly apartments remain empty, lets their inhabitants eat, drink, and be merry; but this comfort and treasure are hidden from them. O what a dark night this was for Bethlehem, that was not conscious of that glorious light! See how God shows that he utterly disregards what the world is, has, or desires; and furthermore, that the world shows how little it knows or notices what God is, has, and does.”

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude/Preparation for Worship

JACQUELYN THORNELL, ORGANIST

“Swiss Noel” - Daquin

Call to Worship *

ZEPHANIAH 3:16-17

Pastor: On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save;

People: He will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.”

Invocation

Hymn of Praise *

N^o. 207

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

Confession of Faith / Catechesis

Second Helvetic Confession XVII. Of the Catholic and Holy Church of God, and of the One Only Head of the Church (Part 8)

Moreover, as we acknowledge no other head of the Church than Christ, so we do not acknowledge every church to be the true Church which vaunts herself to be such; but we teach that the true Church is that in which the signs or marks of the true Church are to be found, especially the lawful and sincere preaching of the Word of God as it was delivered to us in the books of the prophets and the apostles, which all lead us unto Christ, who said in the Gospel: "My sheep hear me voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life. A stranger they do not follow, but they flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers" (John 10:5, 27, 28).

Confession of Sin

EZEKIEL 33:11

“Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?”

Assurance of Pardon

GALATIANS 6:14-16

“But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus

Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.”

Hymn of Praise *

N^o. 195

"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

Pastoral Prayer

WALT HERRINGTON

God's Tithes & Our Offerings

1 CHRONICLES 16:29

“Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come before Him; worship the Lord in holy array.”

Offertory

JACQUELYN THORNELL

“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring” - Bach

Doxology *

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ANDREW RUSH

Special Music

BRIAN MATTHEWS, GUITAR

“Sing a Song of Bethlehem”

Dismiss Children For Children's Church (3 & 4 year olds)

Reading of Holy Scripture

PAGES 724-725

Luke 2:1-25

Sermon

REV. EARL ADAMS

“In the Fullness of Time”

Hymn of Response *

N^o 223

“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

Benediction

REV. EARL ADAMS

Gloria Patri *

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Congregation Standing

ATTENDANCE & FINANCIAL UPDATES

Worship Services (10 AM/5:30 PM): Dec. 24 106/88

Live Views: (10 AM/6 PM) 4/8

Total Online views: 28/37

Sunday School: No SS

Last Week's Offering: \$ 9,372.00

Online Giving: \$ 3,677.00

Weekly Budgeted Offering: \$ 8,345.00

Year-to-Date Giving: \$ 462,663.00 (+28,723.00)

Year-to-Date Budgeted Giving: \$ 433,940.00

Brandon Presbyterian Church

209 South College Street, Brandon, MS 39042

Phone: (601) 825-5259 Email: secretary@brandonpres.com

www.brandonpres.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 AM — 12:30 PM

IN PRAYER

- **MTW Missionary of the Week:** Eli Whitten/RUF
- **Ministry of the Month:** French Camp
- **Shepherding Group of the Week:** Jackie Thompson, Chris Groebe
- **Child(ren) of the Week:** Ryan Groebe
- **College Student of the Week:** Jesse Dickey
- God would bless us with new **conversions, visitors, families, & members.**

Weddings and Babies:

- **Eli Whitten and Eliot Jones:** to be married June 15, 2024
- **Cortney Greer:** expecting a girl January 6, 2024
- **Megan Stowers:** expecting a girl January 23, 2024
- **Savannah Brewer:** expecting a girl March 17, 2024

- **Elton Jay:** was moved to Methodist Rehab on Wednesday. So thankful for all your prayers.
- **Brady Stewart** (Carol Booth's son-in-law): has seen his cardiologist. He is very weak and will continue treatment for a very rare heart condition. We appreciate all your prayers.
- **Hays Monsour** (Jeanne Monsour's 20 yr. old nephew): is at home in Meridian. Please pray for his recovery to continue.
- **Charlie Moak:** dealing with medical issues; please keep him in your prayers.
- **Tina Tolar:** dealing with several chronic illnesses.

Loved ones battling cancer:

- **Jim Smith:** had another stable scan Tuesday; we are praising God for His mercies.
- **Trent Atkinson** (Sue Bohnen's son): began chemo and radiation treatments the end of November. Please pray the treatments will be effective.
- **Dick Cauthen** (friend of Brian and Kerri Matthews): recently completed chemo and got a good report from his oncologist. Will have a PET scan in January.
- **Will Saulter** (Jan Heath's 21 year old neighbor): diagnosed with brain cancer. His MRI results showed that he is stable; his tumor has not grown. Thank you for your continued prayers.
- **Ames Lee** (Chad and Wendy Lee's son): leukemia; June 1st we received news that Ames had relapsed. Ames is taking two different oral chemo pills. Pray that the Lord will help us and guide us to the right decision for Ames.
- **Andrew McCall** (Son of Rev. & Mrs. Perry McCall): had his annual check up. He has gone five years without a relapse and is now classified as cured.
- **Marilyn Blakeney** (Chris Blakeney's Mom): continues to do well; will continue with periodic visits to her doctor.
- **Bill Monsour** (Hays Monsour's grandfather): Continues chemo to control his cancer.

- **Nursing home residents & shut-ins:** Joe Berryhill, Evelyn Culpepper, Jody Nelson, Laverne Roberts
- **Service members:** Baylor Griggs, Fort Lejeune, NC, Infantry training (Scott Word's nephew); Matthew Hellier, CA; Glenn Stewart, Fort Campbell (Sam Heath's nephew); Jesse Thomas Dickey; Joey Brown (Barbara Fowler's nephew); Laurel and Aaron Arnold, (Jeff & Lisa Bynum's daughter and son-in-law)

To livestream the service go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGmzy521B7L2DpUAATtzGHA>

Hit the “Subscribe” button and then turn on “Notifications” by clicking on the bell. If you have trouble subscribing to the livestream contact Darrin Tolar via text message at (601) 720-1157 and he will respond ASAP.