

# The Pastor Said:

Do you remember those frigid, cold days this past month? I'm talking about the days when the temperature was near zero overnight. I felt cold all day long.



We are Born Again  
Kingdom People,  
Living Like Jesus,  
Sharing His Grace.

I bring this up because on one of those days as I was walking from the garage to the house when I looked up in the tree. I had heard birds making noise even though I had my hat on and a hood over my head. I saw two birds perched on the branches. They had dark brown feathers on their heads, backs, and wings. On their chests were orange feathers.

Now, I have for all of my life thought of these birds as the sign that spring had arrived. But, this was nothing like spring weather. It was bitter cold, weather not fit for man nor beast. There they were braving the cold. They certainly seemed to be out of their habitat.

So, what do you think of seeing robins in the middle of February when the weather is the worst? What do you think about how they will survive?

Jesus said that the Father in heaven will provide for even the birds of the air. He went on to tell us not to worry or to be anxious. He proclaimed that if we ask we will receive. If we seek we will find. If we knock the door will be opened.

I've been praying for a fresh wind of the Holy Spirit to blow through our congregation. I know that the Holy Spirit has activated within me a new sense of purpose and urgency. For too long a sense of procrastination or complacency had been hanging over me. Jesus has answered my prayers. He has provided. He will provide.

We are not only launching into renovation projects in the building – sanctuary repairs and painting, new floor in the main level classrooms, a new bathroom and kitchenette on the main level, landscaping at the front of the property and in the parking lot – but a new mission as Bible Believing Disciples of Jesus Committed to Making More Disciples.

During January and February, we have focused on praying for our unsaved family, neighbors, and co-workers along with how to start spiritual conversations. We're praying that sinners will see their sin and come to Jesus. We're praying that they will know God wants to spend eternity with them because He loves them. We're praying for the opportunity to plant, water and harvest the seed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We have been given the ministry of reconciliation. So, in our conversations with sinners we want them to know God offers second chances, a new life, and even though He sees our sin, He still loves us. Every sinner needs to know these things. We don't need to bring up sin until the sinner can see their sin. Grace, mercy and love need to be shared day after day.

As we move into March we will be looking at several encounters with Jesus during His last week on earth. Through these encounters we'll be examining how to lead people to Jesus. In each of the encounters, Jesus provides us with promises concerning salvation. Let Jesus work in you, and through you, as He empowers you to make disciples.

*Pastor Joe*

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

- 1—Lloyd Owens
- 8—Rick Bailey
- 16—Jim Woodrum
- 16—Lana Woodrum
- 17—Barbara Lucas
- 21—Diane Williams



**MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

- 11—Greg & Diane Williams



**Sunday Morning Messages**

Jesus had several important encounters during His final hours. Through four of these encounters, we are given promises that will change our lives if we believe.

- Mar 1** The Promise of Life Out of Death  
Luke 22:7-20
- Mar 8** The Promise to Plead for our Salvation  
Luke 22:62-71
- Mar 15** The Promise to Pardon Sinners  
Luke 23:32-38
- Mar 22** The Promise of Paradise  
Luke 23:39-43
- Mar 29** Palm Sunday  
The Promise of a New King  
Luke 19:28-40

**THE MONTHLY MISSION EMPHASIS FOR 2026**

- Jan - Missionary Maintenance Services
- Feb - America for Christ
- Mar - Cooking Oil for Shepherd's Assembly**
- Apr - Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- May - One Great Hour of Sharing
- Jun - Heavenly Road Baptist Camp
- Jul - Pregnancy Center of Coshocton
- Aug - Lifewise (Release Time Ministry)
- Sep - World Missions
- Oct - New Life Ministries
- Nov - Blankets for the Homeless
- Dec - Retired Ministers and Missionaries

**Salvation Army food items and diapers for the Pregnancy Center are received each week.**

Here are our most urgent needs:



- Diapers - Size 4, 5 and 7
- Pull-ups (Boys) - Size 2T
- Baby/toddler fluoride-free toothpaste
- Boys Socks (up to 2T)
- Winter Shoes (children) - Size 7



Layette items (**new items** only please):  
Crib sheets, bath towels, teething rings, rattles

Large (approx. 13"x6"x10") baby shower gift bags

Thankfully, we have a potential long-term donor for wipes, so that is not a need for now. We truly make sure that we're only asking for things that we are running low on, or that move quickly.



**Dear First Baptist Church & Congregation:**

Our first month of the year was a very cold one and a lot of older people did not make it out. They came in the next week or had someone pick up their card for them. All is well. I like the snow and cold even though it complicates things for us all. People complain no matter what. Living in Ohio, we should expect bad weather every now and then. Keep on smiling. Spring is only 3 months away. The food pantry is doing well and THANK YOU for your faithful and most generous support!

	<b>Total</b>
<b>Households Served</b>	198
<b>Clients 0-17 years old</b>	58
<b>Clients 60 and older</b>	172
<b>Total Number of Clients</b>	342

God's Best to All of You,

*Mark & Doris Granger*  
New Life Ministries  
740/622-2181

## Struggle Sharing Your Faith? by Caesar Kalinowski, *Everyday Disciple*



“What if I ruin the relationship?” “What if they think I’m pushy?” “I’ve tried before, and it just got awkward...”

We Love Being Liked - This is hard to admit, but the fear of rejection usually comes down to self-love. We don’t want people to think less of us. We want approval and comfort. And that desire to be liked can become more powerful than our desire for others to know Jesus. It’s not shameful to acknowledge this—it’s freeing. Because once we see what’s going on under the surface, we can invite God’s love to transform that place in us.

You Are Already Perfectly Loved - This is the foundation. God doesn’t love you more when you share your faith—or less when you don’t. His love is constant, complete, and free. When you rest in that truth, the pressure starts to lift. You’re not sharing Jesus to earn anything. You’re simply responding to the love you’ve already received. Let God’s perfect love replace your fear of rejection and self-protection.

We Don’t Know What To Say - You might know the gospel in your heart and mind—but still feel unsure how to talk about it naturally. This is more common than you think. Here’s what fixes this: gospel fluency—the ability to speak the good news in everyday conversations and situations. It’s about seeing how the gospel truly speaks into all of life, not just the afterlife.

You Can Grow in Gospel Fluency - This will be the biggest shift in your life second to your salvation. The more you grow in gospel fluency, the easier and more natural it becomes to talk about Jesus in ordinary situations. Not as a performance—but as overflow. Instead of waiting for the perfect moment or trying to memorize a presentation, you’ll learn to speak from the heart—with clarity, grace, and real-life connection.

We Think It’s Up to Us - Many of us were taught to “close the sale”—to steer the conversation to a prayer and get someone saved. That pressure can be crushing. It feels like if we don’t land the perfect pitch, we’ve failed. But that was never our job to begin with. Faith and salvation are God’s work. Our role is to love, listen, speak, and trust.

Disciple Making is a Marathon - Hugh Halter once said he assumes it will take five years for a non-believing friend to hear and see enough about Jesus to come to faith. Think about that. That mindset frees you from urgency and pressure—and helps you focus on love, presence, and relationship. You’re not there to “close the deal.” You’re there to walk with them, speak truth, and trust God. If you love well, stay present, and grow in gospel fluency... you’ll look back one day and realize your life has been one big testimony.

**—Mission of the Month—  
Cooking Oil for Shepherd's Assembly**



Shepherd's Assembly on Main Street is our March Mission Emphasis. We will be collecting bottles of cooking oil for the mission's week-day lunches for the homeless and anyone else who wants a free lunch.

Starkey Lawrence pastors the church which ministers to the homeless in Coshocton. In addition to the lunches, the church provides clothing and blankets and a variety of services which are needed by those without housing.

If you would prefer giving a monetary donation, we can purchase the oil for you, or simply give the money to the ministry.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might contribute to this mission emphasis.



**Maundy Thursday Dinner and Worship**

The night Jesus was betrayed has come to be called Maundy Thursday. Good Friday is the day Jesus was crucified. Easter/Resurrection Sunday is the day Jesus rose from the dead.

It has been our custom to gather on Maundy Thursday for a meal and then worship. On April 2 at 6 PM we will gather for our traditional soup supper. Then following the meal at about 6:45 PM we will begin worship. This time of worship closes with the Lord's Supper.

In the coming weeks there will be an opportunity for you to sign up to bring food to the meal. Keep watch on Sunday mornings and mark your calendars.

**Good Friday Community Worship**

The Coshocton Baptist Church on Denman Avenue will be hosting the Good Friday worship service. This time of worship will begin at noon.

Good Friday is a time to pause and reflect on the death of Jesus. It was at noon that the scriptures say Jesus breathed His last breath on earth. His entire life He knew that He would die on a cross. He was aware that His ministry on this earth was to take away our sins. He lived His life in anticipation of becoming our sin, paying the penalty for us.

Good Friday is also a time of commitment to Jesus, the risen and living Savior of the world. We live on this side of the cross, so we know that He rose from the dead and lives forevermore. As we remember all that Jesus did for us, we can rededicate ourselves to living for Him and loving Him.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9:30 am Worship Sunday School	2	3 Bible Study at First Baptist 4-5 pm	4	5 Bible Study at Riverside 10:00 am	6	7 <b>Change Clocks</b> <i>Prepare your heart for Worship</i>
8 <b>Daylight Saving Time Begins</b> 9:30 am Worship Sunday School	9	10 Bible Study at First Baptist 4-5 pm	11	12 Bible Study at Riverside 10:00 am	13	14 <i>Prepare your heart for Worship</i>
15 9:30 am Worship Sunday School	16	17 Bible Study at First Baptist 4-5 pm	18	19 Bible Study at Riverside 10:00 am	20	21 <i>Prepare your heart for Worship</i>
22 9:30 am Worship Sunday School	23	24 Bible Study at First Baptist 4-5 pm	25	26 Bible Study at Riverside 10:00 am	27	28 Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00 am
29 9:30 am Worship Sunday School	30	31 Bible Study at First Baptist 4-5 pm		<b>Maundy Thursday Dinner and Worship—6 pm</b>	<b>Good Friday 12 Noon Coshocton Baptist</b>	<b>Resurrection Sunday is Tomorrow</b>

**MARCH 2026 MONTHLY MISSION**

**++ Cooking Oil for Shepherd’s Assembly++**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**SUNDAY:**                9:30 am Worship  
followed by Sunday School  
*In-person and Facebook*  
*@Joe Sanders*

**TUESDAY:**            4-5 pm Bible Study  
*All are welcome!*

**THURSDAY**        10 am Bible Study—Riverside

Phone 740-622-0300

e-mail:

[info@firstbaptistchurchofcoshocton.com](mailto:info@firstbaptistchurchofcoshocton.com)



First Baptist Church of Coshocton

*First Baptist Church*

618 Chestnut St.

P.O. Box 384

Coshocton, Ohio 43812

Phone 740-622-0300

e-mail: info@firstbaptistchurchofcoshocton.com

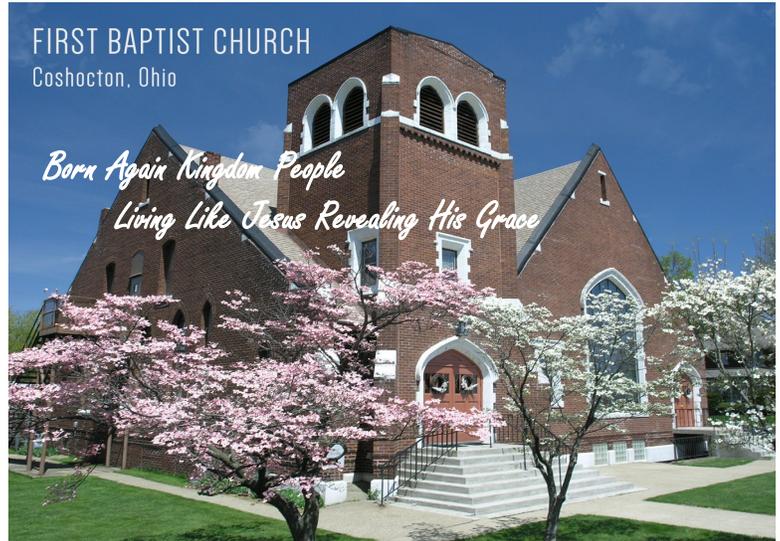
**The F.B.C.**

# **MESSENGER**



*Jesus said,*  
**"You must be  
Born Again"**

*John 3:3*



## *Faithful Servants' Schedule*

MARCH 2026	1	8	15	22	29
<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANT</b>	Lloyd Owens	Randy Roahrig	Rick Bailey	Keri Harris	Loni Sanders
<b>CHURCH MUSICIAN</b>	Angie Lentz				
<b>SONG LEADER</b>	Norma Owens, Kelly Fender				
	<b>LORD'S SUPPER</b>				

**Well done good and faithful servant.  
Thank You for Serving the Lord.**