



EVERY DAY:
MAKING MUCH OF JESUS



FIRST BAPTIST
OPELIKA

2021

**Ministry
Impact Report**

First Baptist Family,

In May of 2020, I drafted a letter to the FBCO family entitled “God’s faithfulness.” No one was aware, myself included, we were in the early stages of what has now become a multi-year global pandemic. A few months later in August of 2020, I drafted another letter encouraging FBCO to “press on”, to stay the course. God is still in control! Not only have you answered the call to “press on”, you have demonstrated the character of this church and it’s individual members by remaining faithful in your attendance, your giving, and your faith. I am personally encouraged by your willingness to be flexible and eagerness to return to on campus activities. I would also like to convey a message from the staff of FBCO for the support you have showed the staff and the ministries of FBCO for the past several years.

God has been so good to us and we have so much to be thankful for! In 2020 FBCO navigated a global pandemic while expanding our media ministry to its current capacity which will continue to grow as needed. Each and every day we broadcast 24/7 on Point Broadband locally and on Youtube.com throughout the world

In 2021, a 15 year “formal” expansion to the FBCO campus celebrated a major milestone with the paying off of over \$18,000,000 worth of debt. Because of this milestone we are giving an additional \$243,000 to missions each year while expanding our annual budget and “saving” for future opportunities. This new financial “freedom” has released FBCO to expand its ministry footprint in Lee County and around the world.

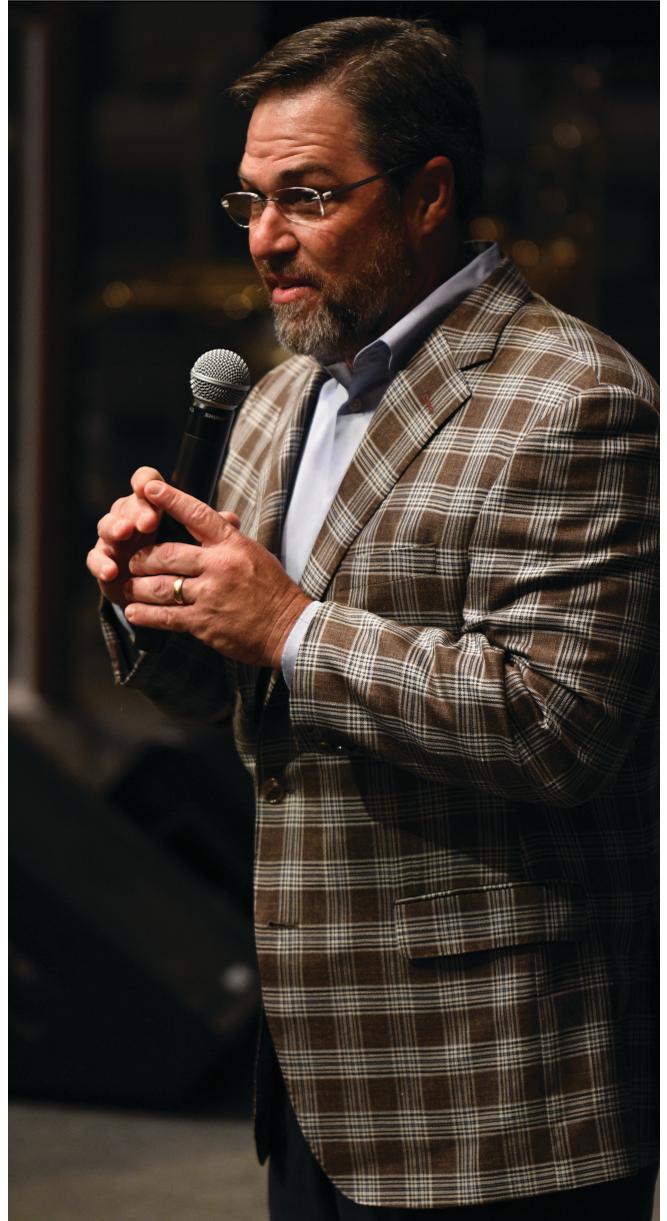
In summation, during a global pandemic not seen on this level since 1918, you have been participants with the Lord in his redemptive work. During this time period we have seen 177 souls baptized and an additional 257 people join FBCO. In addition, you have joined with the mission of God and have sacrificially given over \$15,600,000 to local and international missions.

God has and continued to be faithful in spite of our former or current environment for ministry. Beginning in 2022, and hopefully yearly thereafter, the staff of FBCO would like to present our church family with a Ministry Impact Report. The purpose of this report is threefold. First, we want to exalt the faithfulness of God in the previous year! Secondly, we want to highlight every ministry area on campus so that our church family is equally aware of all the great ministry opportunities available. Lastly, we want to cast a vision for the future and encourage each of you to get involved with the ministry that God is doing at FBCO.

Speaking of 2022. . . this will be a year where FBCO will take our ministry to the next level. What does “next level” mean? It means the inaugural Fall Fest will be even bigger and more tailored to minister to the Opelika and Auburn community. It means we will not just implement but actually house our college campus ministers who serve on the Auburn University campus. It means not only going on the mission field but going to new and exciting fields of service. It means formally partnering with NOBTS to educate future ministry leaders right here at FBCO. It means all of this and so much more. How much more? It means, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. (1 Corinthians 2:9)

In Service to the Lord,

Jeff Meyers
Senior Pastor



OUR Team

Administrative Team

Dr. Jeff Meyers, Senior Pastor
Chris Wood, Church Administrator
Connie Jones, Financial Administrator
Jennifer Johnson, Exec. Asst. to Senior Pastor
Laura Shareski, Exec. Asst. to Administrator
Jessica Thomas, Receptionist

Next Gen

Dan Strickland, Next Gen Pastor

College Team

Will Spivey, College Pastor
Madison Verkouille, College Associate
Matt Ingram, College Associate

Student Team

Spencer Helm, Student Pastor
Taylor McQueen, Student Associate
Owen Meadows, Student Associate
Annah Beth Alverson, Student Assistant

Kids Team

Paul Dunbar, Kids Pastor
Merisa Niles, Kids Associate
Laurel Mattox, Kids Assistant

Preschool Team

Pamela Brewer, Preschool Director
Cindy Cohen, Preschool Assistant
Rachelle Tapley, Bright Beginnings

Missions Team

Alan Jones, Mission Pastor
Lloyd Seok, Korean Pastor
Ben Cohen, Associate Pastor of Missions/Outreach
Lorri Schoonover, Missions/Senior Adult Assistant

Women's Ministry

Traci Meyers, Ministry Leader

Worship Team

Bruce Hill, Worship Pastor
Ryan Snell, Contemporary Worship Leader
Kim Jackson, Fine Arts Director
Beth Polston, Worship Assistant

Education Team

Paul Spargo, Education Pastor
Susan Black, Education Assistant

Encore 55+ Senior Adults Team

Mike King, Senior Adult Pastor

Media & Communication Team

Todd Makris, Director of Media
Matt Tabor, Campus Production Coordinator
David Youngstrom, Campus Production Coordinator
Meagan Mowery, Communication Coordinator
Johnny Hansell, IT Specialist
Andrew Whitten, Media Associate

Facilities Team

Todd Huddleston, Director of Building Operations
Gerald Waller, Maintenance
Eric Burke, Maintenance

Events Team

Kristen Meadows, Events Coordinator

Security Team

Brian Hipp, Director of Security

Men's Ministry

Britt Yarbrough, Ministry Leader

OUR Ministries

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NEW ORLEANS

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

FBCO School of Ministry

Jeff Meyers / jeffm@fbcopelika.com

The inaugural group of Campus Missionaries/ FBCO Staff began the first semester of the FBCO School of ministry, in partnership with New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Nine students were trained in accredited graduate courses with the potential for earning up to 21 hours of graduate seminary credit.

Campus Missionaries Sent Out:

After a year (or two) on the team, these missionaries were sent out by our ministry.

- Kalee: In Huntsville, AL working with a church while processing an IMB application.
- Sydney: Serving under the CAO for Alabama Baptist Children's Home HQ in Birmingham.
- Matt: Serving at Church at the Cross in Orlando, FL teaching Bible classes.
- Amy: Serving at Church at the Cross in Orlando, FL as Girl's minister.
- Kylie: Serving as Women's Director for Pine Cove Camps.





FBCO
COLLEGE

Our Mission: To get the gospel to the people, people into biblical community, and from and with that community to send them out on mission to neighbors and the nations.

Will Spivey / wills@fbcopelika.com

Our Vision: To see Auburn and Southern Union's campuses saturated with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, so that those who are far from God die to themselves and experience life in Christ.

Key Events from 2021

- Winter Retreat to Port St. Joe
- MLK Day Trip to Cheaha State Park
- February Girls Retreat
- Amplify serve trip in Port St. Joe and Apalachicola
- Bagels in the Ballroom at Auburn University
- St. Rose Hurricane Relief trip
- Freshmen Retreat



Weekly Rhythms:



- Missional Communities with an attendance of 400 are weekly groups of students hosted by church families that have an identified mission to reach a part of Lee County/ Auburn University as they grow in community together.
- 8th Street is our bi-weekly Wednesday night service with an average attendance of 250.
- Missional Residency Groups are staff led discipleship groups of 60 Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

Mission Trips:

Boston, Pittsburgh, Central Asia/North Africa, Costa Rica, and Apalachicola



fbcostudents

Spencer Helm / spencerh@fbcopelika.com

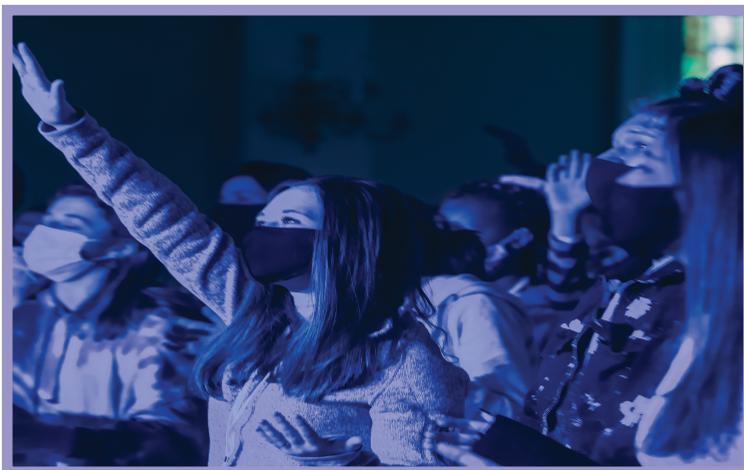
The Student Ministry of First Baptist Opelika exists to partner with families to help students grow in a personal relationship with God (walk); develop Christ-centered community (love); and engage the world around them with the truth of the Gospel (shine).

At DNOW 2021 we had about **200** people engaged during this weekend both on campus and virtual.

In the spring, we had **400** students come out for our dodgeball night.

Love Lee County- We decided to go on mission in our own community and impact Opelika/Auburn AL with 75

students and leaders. Students helped renovate High Hope Baptist Church. We had **10** students share the Gospel for the first time in neighborhoods around our church. Students visited and served **125** widows in our church and helped pave the way and prepare for VBS.



At Summer Camp 2021 we saw over **350** students and volunteers attend camp. We saw many lives impacted at camp by the Gospel. The Lord had multiple salvations and recommitments to faith which has overall strengthened our entire student ministry

Our Life Groups finds its peak on Sunday nights when our students gather with close to **70** college and young adult leaders who are committed to investing in our students relationally and teaching them God's word.



FIRST KIDS FBC OPELIKA

Paul Dunbar / pauld@fbcopelika.com

Quarterly Parent/Child events: Mother/Son Dodgeball, Princess & Her King Dinner, and Father/Son Retreat

FBCO Kids ministry is driven with the purpose to see kids come to KNOW Jesus as their savior, GROW in their walk with Jesus, and be able to GO share Jesus with the world. We have designed a ministry that is not only relational, but fun. We desire to not only invest in children, but partner with parents to raise spiritual champions for the Gospel. By creating different opportunities throughout the year, we can accomplish this vision of seeing kids KNOW, GROW, and GO. Below is a list of what God allowed us to accomplish as a ministry.



We had VBS with **700** kids and adults and 2 different camps with **80-100** kids at each camp!!



51 kids baptized



1st grade bible presentation and 6th grade commissioning service



Live Nativity



Dynamic Wednesday Kids Service averaging **125** kids

At our 11 am kids church hour, the same message that is preached to adults is preached to kids (age appropriately) with the intent to create biblical conversations throughout the week as a family.





BRIGHT BEGINNINGS
First Baptist Opelika

Our Preschool Ministry loves serving children from birth through Kindergarten and their families! We want to partner with parents to help these little ones know God, grow in God and learn how to go share about God. "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in truth." ~ 3 John 1:4

Pamela Brewer / pamelab@fbcopelika.com



19 children were born in our church family since August of 2021 and at least that many or more are coming in 2022

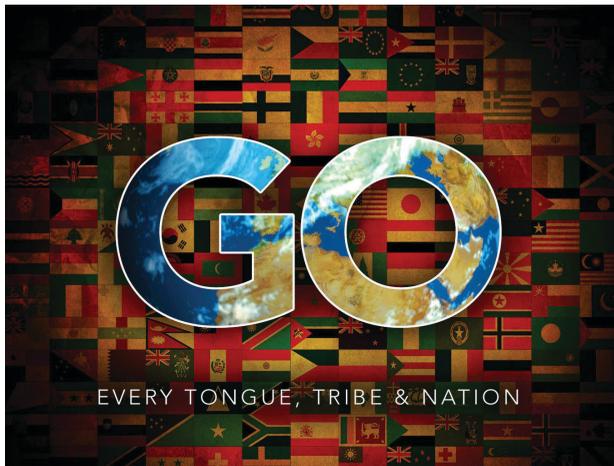


Our weekday preschool program, has **11** classes this year, serving over **125** children

A total of **34** families participated in our 2 Parent Commissioning services



This year we also built an amazing outdoor playground that is used by all of our preschool programs. On Sunday mornings, we have childcare for birth-3 during the 8:30 service, Sunday School at 9:45 and a large group Bible story time and worship at 11:00. On Wednesday nights, we have a fun time of games, worship, story time and crafts for all ages.



Alan Jones / alanj@fbcopelika.com

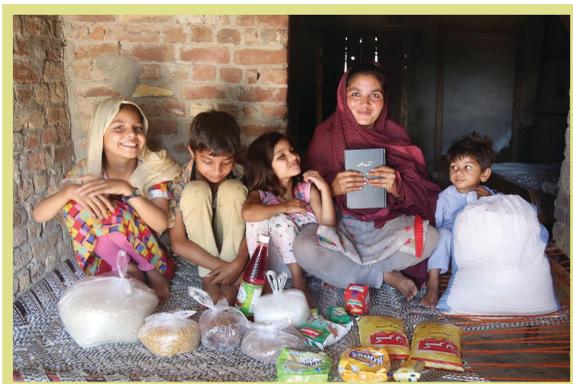
It is such a blessing to serve at FBCO where The Great Commission is in the forefront of everything that we do. We were able to accomplish more in 2021 than ever before. The face of missions is changing as we continue to navigate through the pandemic and other world crisis, however, the need to share the Gospel is greater than ever! We will continue to creatively approach missions and invest in the Kingdom.

Praise The Lord...We surpassed our Lottie Moon Goal of \$275,000. It is such a blessing to know that we have such a big part in supporting our 4500 IMB Missionaries around the world.

Did you know that **17%** of our total budget went to Missions this year?

We have been able to do so many things because of your faithful giving. Let's celebrate these things that your offerings supported:

- Training for 5 pastors in Uganda
- Improved infrastructure for Women's Hope
- Samaritan's Purse for Disaster Relief with fires
- **\$30,000** to put on 4 roofs locally with The Way 2 Serve
- Supported ministry in Uganda with 4 Corners Ministries
- Sent team to Uganda
- Haiti project with the Barbrey's
- Gift to Wade Morris Ministries
- **\$10,000** to Faith Comes by Hearing to translate the Gospel Films
- 30k to purchase truck for pastor in Costa Rica
- Owen Center Counseling
- **\$10,000** to Nigeria to support 125 students that were abducted
- **\$19,000** to Scatter Christ for motorbikes to get evangelists to villages with Bullen Timo
- **\$4,000** to Filters of Hope for water filters to Uganda and Haiti
- Southside Gospel Fellowship – Montgomery church plant with Cameron Bell



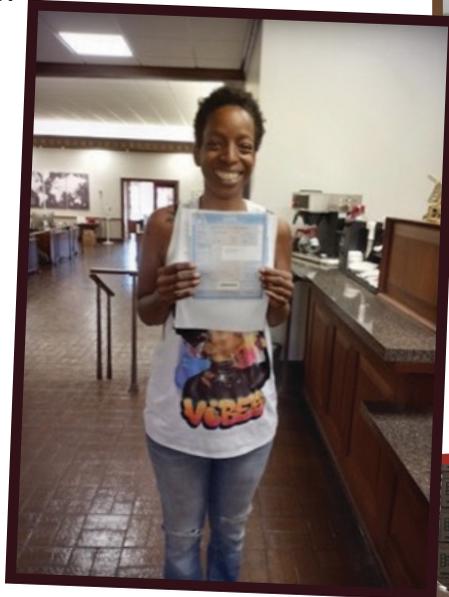
- **\$16,000** to Orphanage Emmanuel for containers
- Purchased truck for Disaster Relief that's large enough to pull a skid steer
- Supported our 8 current missionary units
- Sent 2 teams to Costa Rica to do evangelism in hostels
- Sent teams to Boston & Philadelphia to work with church plants



Ben Cohen / benc@fbcopelika.com

The Mercy Ministry of FBCO is committed to ministering to those in need. Our Associate Missions/Outreach Pastor, Ben Cohen, is able to enter the lives of both members and non-members to walk with them through times of struggles and offer them the mercy of God. The Mercy Ministry also dispenses the mercy of God through our Fellowship Fund.

We were able to assist **80** people with some type of material assistance. Each person or family that came to us met with Pastor Cohen and the Gospel was shared. We seek to give them God's truth that will release them from spiritual bondage.



Thanks to over **100** FBCO volunteers, we were able to hand-deliver Christmas Dinners to **200** local families.





Ben Cohen / benc@fbcopelika.com

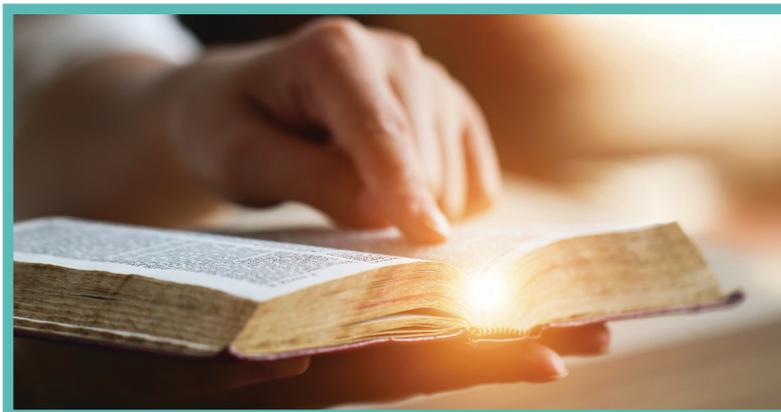
In a society that is hard hearted and unresponsive, we are responsible for faithfully delivering the Word of God to the whole world. Whether it be going door to door in the communities surrounding our church or preaching Christ crucified at an Auburn Football Game, we are called to live by the mantra “anywhere, anytime, any cost.” Compelled by the love of Christ, we go out into the highways, byways and hedges, compelling sinners to come in.

Number of people who heard the Gospel = **125,000**

Number of individual Gospel conversations = **431**

Number of teams that went out to share the Gospel = **83**

Number of people who have been trained in evangelism = **122**



Number of tracts given out = **17,875**

Number of Bibles or NTs handed out here in the US/locally = **324**

Number of people who professed Jesus as “Lord and Savior.” = **43**

하나님을 영화롭게, 사람을 존귀하게 하는



오펠라이카 제일침례교회

First Baptist Opelika Korean Community

Lloyd Seok / lloyds@fbcopelika.com

Mission: FBCO Korean Ministry exist to glorify God by searching for Korean lost souls in Auburn/Opelika area, leading them to Christ, teaching the gospel, training them to be the disciples, and forming a Christian community that saves and heals the world in which we live.



Four Core Projects:

Jesus Project – Reestablishment of the gospel: Discipleship, Evangelical Korean ministry, and gospel driven service. This is the ministry that raises up the faith community

Nehemiah Project – Korean ministry system that applies the efficiency of the ministry

Daniel Project – Young generation ministry, Spiritual leader search and training

Joseph Project – Ministry for those who lost loved ones, for those in financial need, for the volunteering opportunities, for those who are handicapped, senior, or elderly.



Key Events from 2021:

“Blessing Korean Company” Project – We visited 32 Korean companies to share Gospel packages with 1,498 employees. Pastor Lloyd also met with 26 CEOs of Korean companies to share the Gospel with them and pray.

Established a Korean Children’s Ministry – We started this ministry with 14 kids in July and have almost doubled that by the end of the year.

Korean Youth Discipleship – We have 26 Korean youth that meet every week for a group Bible study.





FIRST BAPTIST OPELIKA WORSHIP MINISTRY

Bruce Hill / bruceh@fbcopelika.com

The Worship Ministry of FBCO consists of weekly worship services led by our Adult Choir, Orchestra, and Praise Team as well as our Preschool and Children's Choirs, Student Worship Team, and Handbells.



The Adult Choir had record growth with over **100** members leading in worship.

Special Events include: Christmas and Easter musical celebrations, hosting guest vocalists Babbie Mason, Voices of Lee, and Dr.'s William and Rosephanye Powell, two children's musicals, and three Christmas Eve services



Our Contemporary Worship Team consists of **25** members that serve in our weekly service as well as our church's Father/Son Retreat, Men's Ministry events, Kid's Camp, as well as events for the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions.

First Baptist Opelika Fine Arts Academy

In 2021, the Academy returned to numbers from Pre-Covid. We had 10 teachers and most of them were also involved in our choirs and orchestra at FBCO. We have had students and families join FBCO after joining our Academy. Students have also gotten involved in our children and student choirs. We have students of multiple nationalities involved and students come from not just Lee County but surrounding counties. The Lord is blessing us with more new students this year as well as new teachers.

Kim Jackson / kimj@fbcopelika.com



We have **70+** students enrolled with ages ranging from **5 to 80!!!**



Our lessons include vocal, piano, flute, cello, violin, drums, and so much more!!



FIRST BAPTIST EDUCATION MINISTRY

Paul Spargo / pauls@fbcopelika.com

The mission of the FBCO adult education ministry is to glorify God by proclaiming Jesus Christ and preparing Christians for life-long ministry. Our strategy is to aggressively proclaim the gospel in our community and invest in the lives of those individuals who embrace the goal of becoming Christ-like in every area of their lives. Small group Bible studies, discipleship, and mentoring remains our main focus. Edifying and empowering people for the cause of Christ is at the very core of all we do.

We have a total of **40** weekly adult Sunday School classes that meet at 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 every Sunday with **75%** of our weekly worshippers engaged in these classes.



We have **20** Spring and Fall Bible studies that meet on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Plus various support groups such as DivorceCare, Celebrate Recovery, and Reboot combat recovery.

Our Apologetics Seminar was attended by **30-50** people as we introduced believers to a comprehensive range of apologetic arguments and strategies. We seek to balance biblical knowledge with the skills necessary to communicate that knowledge in an effective way.





Our Encore Ministry is for our 60+ community who are in or approaching a major transition in life and have a desire for Jesus Christ to be the center of their lives. We are committed to physical, emotional, and spiritual health while investing in the next generation.

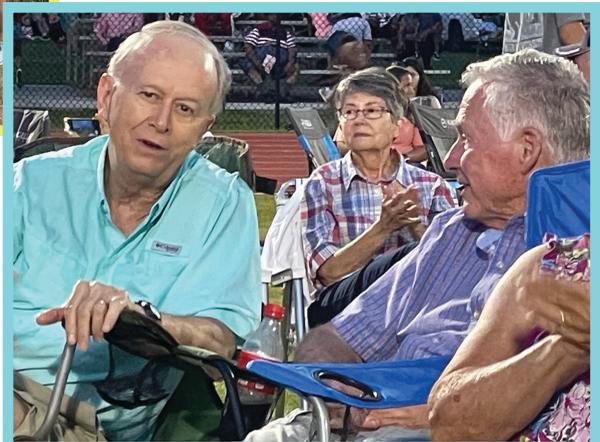
Mike King / mikek@fbcopelika.com

We host regular gatherings for encouragement, fellowship, and Bible Study that include our Spring Celebration, July 4th Picnic, and Christmas Dinner.



We enjoy many travel opportunities such as trips to Western Canyons, Smoky Mountains and Day Trips.

We offer Grief Support, Counseling and a ministry of presence and support





Traci Meyers / fbcowomen@fbcopelika.com

We desire to see women connect with the Lord Jesus Christ and the FBCO church family in 3 ways. To see them GROW in their relationship with the Lord through studying scripture and growing in discipleship, to GATHER for times of fellowship, community, and equipping, and finally to GO into the world equipped and confident in pointing others towards Christ and his love.

In February, Women's Ministry partnered with the Men's Ministry to host a marriage conference with speaker, Dr. Michael Smalley.

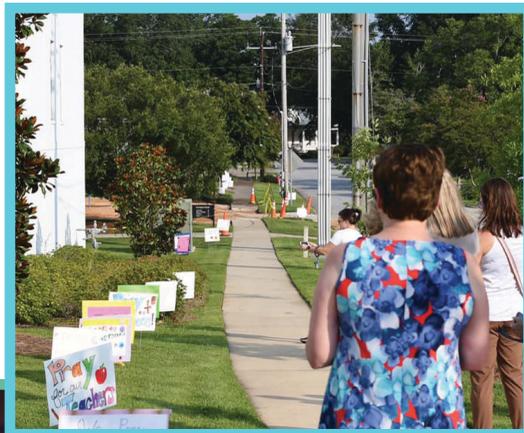
Over **130** widows were ministered to throughout the year, including a widow's tea in the spring and a luncheon in the fall.

We hosted a Back-to-School Prayer Walk to pray over teachers, staff, students, and the community to start the school year in August.

In October, we hosted a Women's Night of Worship with an incredible Praise Team made up of women from FBCO.

We hosted our fall new member dinner with over 25 new ladies.

Through the Giving Tree project at Christmas, we were able to provide over 200 children in need with a Bible and gift.



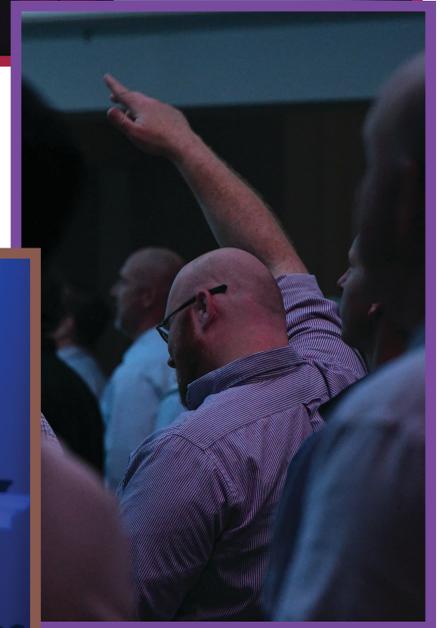
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FBCO MEN'S MINISTRY

Britt Yarbrough / mensministry@fbcopelika.com

We believe that being Christ-like men of character and conviction is one of the highest priorities in our mission at FBCO. Discipleship-oriented courses make up the nucleus of the Men's Ministry, enhanced by special events such as Man Church, Fellowship Outings, and Men's Retreats.

At our multiple Man Church events, we hosted speakers Rick Burgess, Mac Brunson, and more with an average attendance of **150!!**



We hosted Sunday and Wednesday night Bible studies that are attended by many, including His Place.



FBCO Media Reaching the World

1. Alabama
2. Georgia
3. Texas
4. (unknown state)
5. Louisiana
6. Florida
7. North Carolina
8. Tennessee
9. Mississippi
10. New York
11. California
12. Ohio
13. Virginia
14. Kentucky
15. South Dakota
16. South Carolina
17. Illinois
18. Oklahoma
19. Pennsylvania
20. Puerto Rico
21. Arkansas
22. Iowa
23. Wisconsin
24. Minnesota
25. Washington
26. New Jersey
27. Maryland
28. Missouri
29. Northern Ireland
30. Michigan
31. Colorado
32. West Virginia
33. Indiana
34. Kansas
35. Korea, Republic of, Seoul
36. Oregon
37. Nebraska
38. United Kingdom, England
39. New Hampshire
40. Massachusetts
41. Arizona
42. C-VI
43. Canada, Ontario
44. New Mexico
45. Idaho
46. Utah
47. Costa Rica, San José
48. NWT-TW 4
49. Montana



- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 43. Canada, Ontario | 78. New Zealand, Auckland |
| 44. New Mexico | 79. AB-CI |
| 45. Idaho | 80. Ukraine, Kyiv |
| 46. Utah | 81. Philippines, Cagayan Valley |
| 47. Costa Rica, San José | 82. Singapore |
| 48. NWT-TW 4 | 83. Netherlands |
| 49. Montana | 84. France |
| 50. Kuwait, Al Kuwait | |
| 51. St. Maarten | |
| 52. Mozambique, Maputo | |
| 53. Germany, Hamburg | |
| 54. Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek | |
| 55. D.C . | |
| 56. Connecticut | |
| 57. Aruba | |
| 58. Brazil, Rio de Janeiro | |
| 59. Argentina, Buenos Aires | |
| 60. Germany, Baden-Württemberg | |
| 61. ARA-FR | |
| 62. Jamaica | |
| 63. Jamaca Islands | |
| 64. Wyoming | |
| 65. India, Uttar Pradesh | |
| 66. Brazil, São Paulo | |
| 67. Rhode Island | |
| 68. Pakistan, Panjāb | |
| 69. Nevada | |
| 70. North Dakota | |
| 71. LN-CN | |
| 72. Indonesia, Jawa Timur | |
| 73. Greece, Attikí | |
| 74. Hawaii | |
| 75. Honduras, Francisco Morazán | |
| 76. Costa Rica, Cartago | |
| 77. Germany, Bayern | |

Streaming Views 2021

Youtube - 48,057

Boxcast - 41,874

TV Channels

OPS and Charter serving the Opelika/
Auburn Area

Radio

88.7 and 97.7 The Kicker
Serving pre-recorded and live content -
Services and Ask Jeff

Concerts

Events bringing in people who may never
darken door of church
Charles Billingsley/Hoppers/Matthew West



2021 brought several changes to our FBCO campus. Through the generous 2020 overage and regular 2021 budget, our facilities department was able to upgrade the following:

Todd Huddleston / toddh@fbcopelika.com

- New roof on the middle school building (Impact)
- New ice machine in the Humphries building
- Old library renovated into offices and communal space for our college staff
- Old joy department renovated into the contemporary worship pastor's office
- The Well and hallway converted to polished concrete.
- Third floor restrooms converted into new Baptism changing rooms
- New Landscaping at 3:16 entrance, sanctuary, and chapel
- Landscaping improvements at Lawyer Home, Newman House, and Triangle
- New outdoor playground





Kristen Meadows / events@fbcopelika.com

Our 1st Annual Fall Festival on the Square was well attended with over 6,000 people who heard the Gospel as well as enjoyed entertainment & fellowship.

Outcast BMX did an outstanding job!

74 professions of faith in Jesus Christ

We gave out **5,000** lbs of candy



First ever downtown fireworks display

OUR 2021 Finances

Contributions given for the following ministries

Tithes and Offerings	\$7,238,123
Lottie Moon	\$284,873
Annie Armstrong	\$67,067

If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

John 8:31-32

5 Ways you can Pray for First Baptist Church Every Day

As you join us in celebrating what God has done in 2021, please join us in prayer each day that more lives would be changed, challenged, and blessed through our efforts together in 2022!

Specifically, here are five ways you can bless and encourage FBCO in 2022.

- 1) Pray for the ministries at FBCO to continue introducing the lost to the Lord Jesus Christ who loves them and to encourage believers to live out their faith with boldness.
- 2) Pray for Dr. Jeff Meyers, that he would continue to boldly teach the whole truth of God's Word, without obstruction or distraction.
- 3) Pray for the FBCO staff, that we would "not grow weary in well doing" (Galatians 6:9), and that our Lord Jesus Christ would be glorified in all we create, share, and do.
- 4) Pray for the FBCO congregation to remain steadfast in their commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ, through daily Biblical reading and prayer.
- 5) Pray for Lord Jesus Christ to supply the daily needs of our church, staff, and congregation.

Please know that we, the staff of First Baptist Opelika, are praying for you too. Your prayers, tithes and offerings, and partnership with us make FBCO happen each day. We're deeply humbled and grateful for your continued support.



FIRST BAPTIST
OPELIKA, AL



FIRST BAPTIST

OPELIKA, AL

301 S 8th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
(334) 745-5715
fbcopelika.com