

The Witness

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Newsletter

September 2025

Turning the World Upside Down

Disturbing the status quo with message and life.

“And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.” And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things.” (Acts 17:6-8 ESV)

They weren’t protesting. They weren’t burning cars. They weren’t hiding their faces with scarves and shouting ugly slogans. They just lived Christ. They just shared Christ. They declared that Jesus was their King (and lived like it). The result: the world was turned upside down.

They lived differently! Their perspective was other worldly. They didn’t get upset about things that don’t matter. They didn’t get prideful. They didn’t cause divisions among themselves. They didn’t complain. They didn’t insist on their way. They put away sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from their mouths. They did not lie to one

another but put off the old self with its practices (Col 3:5-9). The result: the world was turned upside down.

They lived Godly. They had compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one had a complaint against another, they forgave each other. The reflected Christ in their relationships. They loved one another. The result: the world was turned upside down.

Do we want to turn our world upside down? It won’t happen through gossip on Facebook. It won’t happen by running around condemning others. It won’t happen by demanding our rights. It won’t happen by passing laws and electing politicians. It won’t happen as we gossip. It won’t happen through our critical nature. It will only happen when our lives and our words declare Jesus as King. The result will be the world turned upside down.

What about me? Do I make an impact on my world? Do people know that Jesus is king through my transformed life? Do people know that Jesus is king because I tell them so?

It’s not hard. If we want our church to have a radical impact, it starts with us.

Pastor Danny

September Outreach

Fall activity is before us. Already church attendance is up. Visitors are up. New members are up. We are officially moving from the dog days of summer to the busy time of Fall. I love it!!

Children/Youth Wednesday after-school programs are in full swing. It took a week for children’s attendance to pop up, but the teens started right away. Last week over 50 combined kids/youth were here (not counting workers), and the prospect of growing even more is real. Dennis and Shi do a great job of leading the programs, while a host of workers join in to invest in young lives.

I have counted over 25 new adults that have started attending either anew or are returning after being away a bit. This number includes several families with kids/youth. Church attendance has grown back to pre-summer numbers. Also, several more families will soon be returning from lengthy times away during the summer. We have added new members, and may well add a number more in the days ahead. Praise the Lord for His workings.

September activities include the Lord’s Supper during the service on September 7, Tips for Tots September 8 at Winnsboro Civic

Center, See You at the Pole September 24 at the school, a Heart to Heart Women's Ministry event on September 27, and a mini business meeting on September 28. Additionally, it will be a real treat to hear Steve Couch preach on September 14 and Dennis Wagner to preach on September 21 (Danny will be on vacation on these two Sundays).

A special recognition and celebration of Steve Couch's music ministry will be held after the service on September 28. He has done a fantastic job at First Baptist Church, and while he will remain in the church and continue with senior ministry, he will be retiring in his role as Worship Leader.

While not technically in September, the first Sunday in October will be a very special time. Larry Moyer, the author of the tract Bad News / Good News, will be with us for a You Can Share It! Sunday Morning. This is the pastor's favorite method of sharing the gospel. It is simple and effective. All Sunday School classes will combine on that Sunday for his evangelism training session. Larry will then preach the morning service. We will have a light meal after the service with some additional encouragement. This will be a great Sunday, and will be a marvelous opportunity to learn or renew our confidence in sharing our faith. This is what we have been commissioned to do.

Pastor Danny

At-A-Glance:

July's Gifts: \$28,380.⁰⁰
 2025 Gifts : \$152,883.⁴⁷
 2025 Budget: \$286,384.⁰⁰

Youth Ministry Update

We kicked off youth ministry for the fall on August 13th, and I'm so thankful for the energy and excitement God has already brought. Right now, we're in a series called "Jesus >" where we're focusing on the gospel and reminding our students that Jesus truly is better than everything. Our theme for the year is "The Lost Sheep," and our heart is to see students reaching out to their classmates who don't yet know Christ.

I'd love for you to pray with me and for our amazing leaders—Sam, Wayne and Christine, Lonny and Quata, Stephanie, and Keith—as we pour into these students each week. Also, please join me in praying that God would put it on a student's heart to start a Bible study or Christian club at the school. I believe He wants to do something big this year!

"For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost." —Luke 19:10

- Dennis Wagner

Music Ministry

The Praise Team did another wonderful job during the month of September. Great Special Music from Wayne Miles, Sheryl Jobe, Pat Brown, Sam Wagner and Kathy Freeman, It is good to have Leann back in the Sound Booth. She is really working hard to learn all the ins and outs of how the sound should be and is doing a great job.

I believe everyone is aware that I will be retiring as Music Minister at the end of this month. It has been an honor and privilege to lead worship at FBCY. I pray that everyone will be as supportive of the next Music Minister as you have been to me.

I plan to continue my role as Sr Adult Minister at this time.

Thank you to everyone for your love and support during the last three years!

Sr Adult Ministry

The Fall Sr Adult Rally at Lakeview Retreat will be October 9th 2025. More information will be available this month.

In His Love
 Bro Steve

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