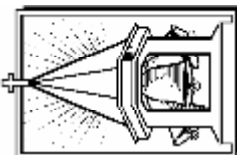


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First Baptist Church of  
Chickasaw  
"The Chimes"  
92 Fifth Street  
Chickasaw, AL 36611



### Hours of Worship & Activities

<b>Sunday</b>	
9:30 AM	Sunday School
10:45 AM	Morning Worship
4:45 PM	Choir Practice
6:00 PM	Evening Worship
<b>Tuesday</b>	
12:00 PM	Fun & Fellowship/Gym
<b>Wednesday</b>	
6:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
6:00 PM	Team Kids
<b>Thursday</b>	
9:30 AM	Nursing Home Visitation
12:00 PM	Fun & Fellowship/Gym

### Other Opportunities for Service

**Brotherhood** - Meets at 7 a.m. the 4th Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall.

**Lamplighters** - Meets the 4th Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall at 5:00 p.m.

**WMU** - Meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch immediately following the meeting.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Dr. Henry Creel                      Cell 251-209-7136  
E-mail:    [h55digger@bellsouth.net](mailto:h55digger@bellsouth.net)

Minister of Music Dr. Ken Bergdolt                      251-447-0661  
Church Office    251-452-0222  
Church Fax    251-452-0280  
Church E-mail:    [firstbaptistc359@bellsouth.net](mailto:firstbaptistc359@bellsouth.net)



# The Chimes

## December, 2009



December 7. Pearl Harbor Day. When I was a child I remember distinctly studying about Pearl Harbor Day in Eight Mile School. Mrs. Stewart, my eighth-grade teacher, had a son who was there. She took extra care to teach us how that infamous event was the catalyst that catapulted the United States into the Second World War. She taught all of us future military men the absolute necessity of always being vigilant, ever on guard, lest some future Japanese-styled enemy should repeat such a sneak attack upon us. Mrs. Stewart even went so far as to analogize the event, warning us not to let any vice, habit, etc., sneak up on us and do us in. I learned the lesson well.

Mrs. Stewart was more than just an eighth-grade school teacher; she was also my Sunday School teacher at Myers Memorial Baptist Church. She had no qualms about bringing the lessons of Pearl Harbor to the Sunday School Class and warning her eighth-grade boys that Satan would also sneak upon us, bringing sudden destruction to us, infinitely worse than the carnage at Pearl Harbor. I learned that lesson well, also.

This is the Advent season. Our English word, advent, comes from the Latin word, adventus, which means "to come" or "to arrive." Throughout the Old Testament, God promised his people, the Jews, that He would send a Messiah, a Savior, to the world. This Messiah, God said, would not only save His people from their sins, but He would save all the peoples of the earth who trusted Him. The Jews believed God's promise, and waited many years for His "coming." The Bible tells us that God kept His promise, and sent the Messiah. He came to earth as a tiny baby, born in a manger in Bethlehem to poor parents. They named Him Jesus. Although the Jews claimed to be expecting Him and watching for Him, they did not recognize Him when he came.

The Bible teaches us that God has promised to send His Messiah to the earth again. Like the Jews of old, many of us today claim to be expecting Him to come again. Many of us even say that we are watching for His arrival. Yet, somehow, I feel that history will surely repeat itself once again. The Bible says He will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night (like the Japanese at Pearl Harbor), bringing a cataclysmic judgment to this earth.

I would be doing less than my duty as your pastor if I did not urge each and every one of you to be prepared for His second advent. To be prepared, you must first trust Jesus Christ as your Savior. This means the forsaking of your old sinful ways, and turning to a new life that is lived under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

For those of you who have already trusted Jesus as your Savior, to be prepared means to get rid of that grudge you are holding against your fellow Christian, your neighbor, or your family member. To be prepared means for you to forgive those who have offended you, whether or not you think they deserve your forgiveness. After all, do **you** really "deserve" God's forgiveness? To be ready for His second coming means for you to be at peace with God and man. Are you ready for His second coming?

Even so, "Come Lord Jesus." AMEN & AMEN !!

Dr. Creel

## THE LAFAYETTE TRIP—A “REMEMBER THE TIME WHEN” MAKER

It was 6:00 a.m., over thirty people were waiting...and no bus! It had been inadvertently cancelled. And so began the “Remember the time when” experiences. But by 8:15 a.m. frustration turned elation, and we were on our way to Cajun Country with our first class bus driver, Michael Steger.

Jackie Reddick’s devotion set a timely tone of thankfulness for us as we face the Thanksgiving season. Moving from the faithful pilgrims and the hardships they endured, to our own time, she reminded us to “count our many blessings, see what God hath done.”

Stopping at a fashionable restaurant for a Whopper and coffee, a lady who was not a member of our group, asked an unusual question. Where are you going? There seems to be such joy in your group, we would like to follow you.” This was clearly a “Remember the time when” moment, when a genuine word of praise came from an unknown source. “Before any words,” wrote John Chrysostom, “let us astound them with our way of life.”

Our guide, Ivy Lavergne, joined us in Lafayette. Both she and our driver served us in such a friendly, helpful, and outstanding manner that all sojourners agreed we should request them by name if the future calls us back to Cajun Country.

The visit to Tabasco Factory was of great interest, and the Gift Shop presented a real opportunity for our “shop ’til you drop” members.

The journey through the Avery Island Gardens, with its massive, majestic oak tress caught in the slanting, golden light of an autumn afternoon, certainly qualified for another “Remember the time when” experience—an experience that gives life to the Psalmist’s words “Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice before the Lord” (Ps:12).

The two magnificent and charming ante-bellum homes (one of which, Shadows on the Teche, is perhaps the most photographed in the area) with their authentic furnishing and surroundings, provided a magic step “back” in time.

Mulatte’s Cajun Restaurant, on the other hand, with its Cajun cooking, Cajun music, and Cajun choreography, provided a step “in” time, at least for those with graceful and rhythmic movements, among who Dr. B was not. Mulatte’s has that *joie de vivre* (joy of living) atmosphere that can, indeed, jar you back to life.

Walking into the modest Martin Accordion facility, we were unprepared for the experience that lay ahead. Once inside, we were greeted by three marvelous Cajun musicians, all of whom were members of the Martin family. Their lively presentation was among the highpoints of our journey. The question on everyone’s mind was “When can we get them for a Fifth Sunday Sing?”

The unique *ecole de cuisine* (cooking school) experience at Vermillionville, where the chef explained and prepared our lunch in front of our eyes, was yet another candidate for a “Remember the time when” event.

And what did our own group contribute to the trip? Nothing runs smoothly without careful advance planning, for which we may thank Ed Baxley and his contact with Pat Link of Allons A Lafayette, Inc. And no trip would be complete without the comedic renderings of Mabry Harbin, the delectable delicacies provided by some of our tour members, the door prizes, and the spirited singing of the “Bus Choir.”

In his devotion, our Pastor, Dr. Creel, expressed the need for each of us to adopt the face of Jesus in our dealings with others, which will “Let Others See Jesus in Us.” Our prayer is that the great spirit of fellowship, which prevailed throughout the trip, will continue at First Baptist Chickasaw. Of all of our “Remember the time “whens,” may the memory of our fellowship be among the most enduring. Amen and Amen.

Dr. B and Colleen

## Sunday School Attendance

11/01/09 - 11/22/09

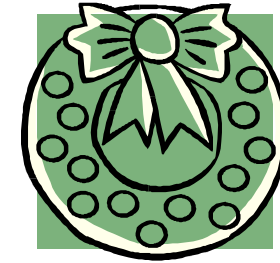
	Average	
	Enr.	Att.
Sunday School	189	78
Homebound	7	6

## ADVENT

Advent is that season of the church year before Christmas when we wait in expectation for the coming of our Lord. On each of the four Sundays leading to Christmas we light a candle symbolizing hope, peace, joy, and love which we associate with the coming of the Christ child. The *Hanging of the Greens*, which we will celebrate on December 6, signifies the renewal of hope through the birth of Jesus.

We look forward to special instrumental and vocal music during the time of Advent. On the evening of December 6, *Bring Your Children Home*, a drama/musical, directed by Mickey Day, will be given at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, and on December 20 *An Old Fashioned Christmas* will be presented at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary followed by the Candle Lighting Ceremony.

A service of *Lessons and Carols*, culminating the season with the lighting of the Christ Candle, will be held on Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m.



## Thank You

“Light of the Village Ministry” says:  
THANKS for “Allowing kids to be kids.”  
Thank you for your generous donation.  
Thanks to your support these young  
people have had the chance to be kids  
outside their neighborhood.

\*\*\*\*\*

‘Tis not the weight of jewel or plate  
Nor the fondle of silk or fur;  
‘Tis the spirit in which the gift is given  
As the gifts of the wise ones were.  
And we are not told whose gift was gold;  
And whose was the gift of myrrh.

Author Unknown

