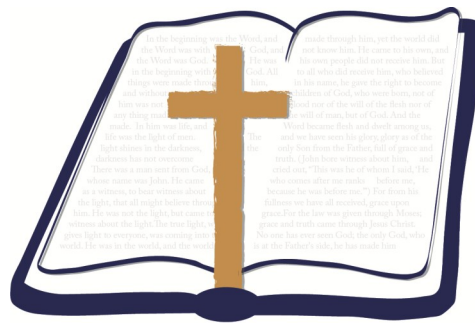


IN THE LOOP

Landon Byrd, Pastor

Tim Shivers, Minister of Music

Heather Dees, Ministry Assistant



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Birmingham, AL 35224
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www.westmontbaptist.org

Westmont
Baptist Church

A PUBLICATION OF WESTMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2025

Tues, Sept 2nd

7:00 pm - Teacher Prep Night

Sun, Sept 7th

8:30 am - WMU Breakfast

3:55 pm - Deacons Meeting

Wed, Sept 10th

6:00 pm - Business Meeting

Thurs, Sept 18th - Fri, Sept 19th

SonShiners Trip to Georgia

Fri, Sept 26th

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - 4th Friday Fun & Fellowship

Sun, Sept 28th

11:00 am - Lord's Supper

Baptist Faith and Message Amendment

On June 14th 2023, messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention voted to amend the Convention's statement of faith, "The Baptist Faith and Message, 2000." The amendment was to article VI on "The Church."

The language was changed as follows,

Original: It's scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

Amended: Its two scriptural offices are that of pastor/elder/overseer and deacon. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor/elder/overseer is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

Now why on earth do I bring that to our attention at Westmont Baptist Church? We as a church are convinced from scripture that each local church is accountable before the Lord as to what they believe and teach. In other words, the Southern Baptist Convention does not tell us what we should believe and we go along blindly. However, as a church in friendly cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention, we have long affirmed the Baptist Faith and Message, 2000, as "a sufficient guide to understanding Christian doctrine." So given the amendment that the messengers adopted, I think it is appropriate for Westmont to examine the issue and as a church make an informed decision regarding our continued affirmation of the Baptist Faith and Message as a faithful summary of Biblical doctrine.

Now, spoiler alert, I think this amendment was a good amendment. I think we would be right to continue affirming the Baptist Faith and Message as our doctrinal statement in this instance. But it is not my place to decide this. It is the church's responsibility to ultimately evaluate teaching that is put before them (Gal 1.6-9).

We have been slowly moving toward addressing this issue for some time. The deacons and I have been discussing this for a few months and as a church we have had a Sunday night study on the subject of pastor/elder/overseer." The next step forward is that we will devote a significant amount of time at the September business meeting to discussing the amendment to the Baptist Faith and Message. I will seek to explain in greater detail the wording, what seems to be the intent behind it, and what the Bible says about this. I will try to answer any questions that church members may have about the change. We will then table the discussion for a vote before the whole church.

I hope that we will all study the scriptures well as we assess this adoption of a change to our doctrinal statement as a church.

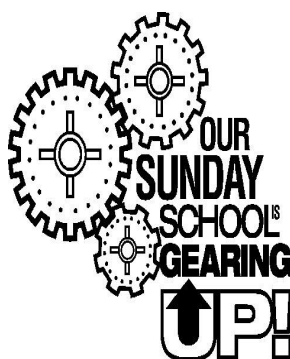
Pastor Landon



2 Abby Brown
13 Lorelei Byrd
19 Jeff Nix



LeeAnn Powell
9-1-2018
Darrel Holcombe
9-7-1997
Betty Duncan
9-8-2004



Budget Report (through August 24, 2025)

Receipts Month - \$10,835.00
YTD - \$130,791.06

Budget Month - \$18,670.35
YTD - \$149,362.80

