



# THE MESSENGER

## February 2026

### PASTOR'S THOUGHTS



Hey Church Family!

On Sunday morning 1/25/26, we paused our 1 Corinthians sermon series to think through a Christian response to our sister SBC church, Cities Church in St. Paul, MN having their service disrupted by anti-ICE protesters. I wanted to take the February newsletter and summarize the main themes of the sermon here because this is an important topic. The reason this is important is because *2 Timothy 3:12* says, "all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted." Therefore, we would be naïve to think that this type of service disruption couldn't happen to us at CRBC, and even outside of a Sunday morning. Scripture says Satan seeks to devour so he would love to disrupt your personal worship of Jesus on a daily basis.

The main idea of the sermon was *when Satan tries to disrupt our worship of King Jesus, sing louder! Sing songs of praise to King Jesus so loud that our worship drowns out the screech of the demons.*

Why would we focus on singing in response to Satan trying to disrupt worship of Jesus? The answer is because that is the response we see from the Apostle Paul in *Acts 16:16-40* when Satan tried to disrupt his worship of Jesus.

Think about it like this, the response of our flesh to a disruption like what Cities Church

experienced would be hating and fighting, not the kind of fighting that protects the vulnerable but the kind focused on vengeful retribution. However, that is the response Satan would want us to have because *John 10:10* says his mission is to "steal, kill, and destroy." Scriptures like *1 Peter 2:20-24* and *Romans 12:17-21* call us to respond like Jesus who did not return evil for evil. That is why in *Acts 16:25*, we find out that after getting wrongfully arrested, beaten, and imprisoned while on the way to prayer, Paul and Silas worship God. *Acts 16:25* says, "About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."

This verse is powerful! Think about how you would respond if you were Paul and Silas? They did not complain, accuse God of wrongdoing, or curse the Romans, instead they started a worship service in jail.

Then, an earthquake occurred and opened the jail's doors. As the guard is about to kill himself (because he thought his prisoners escaped), Paul and Silas cry out to stop Him because ALL the prisoners are there. Why did all the other prisoners stay? Because v. 25 says they were LISTENING to Paul and Silas worship. Worship of King Jesus resulted in prisoners not taking a literal get out of jail free card. Not only did this result in the jailer's life being spared, but it also resulted in his entire household being saved. No matter how Satan tried to turn this situation into a

"steal, kill, destroy" scenario, Paul and Silas' worship of King Jesus drowned out the screech of the demons and resulted in more people getting saved.

As we process what happened to Cities Church, and the persecution we will face for following Jesus, may we resolve to sing louder! Why? Because we never now what the results will be until God brings them about, but we do know that He takes moments of persecution that Satan meant to "steal, kill, and destroy," and uses them for His glory and our good.

Don't forget to...

- Join us at 9:15 am on Sunday Morning for Sunday School and at 10:30 for our Worship Service.
- Join us at 6:00 pm on Sunday nights for Bible Study and Prayer.
- Join us at 7:00 pm on Wednesday nights for Discipleship Training.
- Visit our church YouTube page (<https://www.youtube.com/@CrawfordRoadBaptistChurch>) to see the recordings of past Sunday or Wednesday preaching/teaching.

- Pastor Ethan

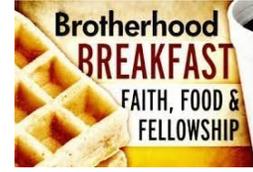
**FEBRUARY**

**Birthdays**

Josh McPeters.....	4
Patsy Baker.....	6
Joel Shenton.....	7
T.J. Shenton.....	8
Tyler Goodson.....	10
Marcus Graves.....	11
Layken Tester.....	15
Wyatt Catrett.....	16
Paul Vancil.....	16
Diane Rogers-Chase.....	21
Danny Gillis.....	24
John Ogletree.....	25
Olivia Graves.....	26

***Proposed By-law Town Hall Meeting***

Copies of the proposed church by-laws and job descriptions are available to pick up and examine. If you have any questions or concerns, we will have a town hall type meeting Sunday night, February 1st at 6:00 for anyone that would like to ask questions. The proposed by-laws will be brought to the church for a vote at a special called business meeting on Sunday, February 22nd following the morning worship.



Our next Brotherhood Breakfast will be February 8th at 7:00 A.M. All men and young men are invited to join us for some delicious food and a great time of fellowship.

Men, if you haven't been attending, it's not too late to join us. You won't regret it.

**STEWARDSHIP NOTES**

**Operating Offering**

Weekly budget needs—**\$4,448.00**

Tithes & Offerings for January  
**\$15,029.45**

Average per week  
**\$3,757.36**

***Restroom Renovations***

The two restrooms directly behind the sanctuary are in great need of renovations. We are going to start getting estimates for plumbing, flooring, vanities, etc. If you would like to contribute to this renovation, please mark your contribution "Restroom Renovation Fund".

***Playground***

Our playground set is badly deteriorating and is beyond repair. The House & Grounds committee has gotten prices to rebuild and replace it for a cost of around \$5,000.00. If you would like to contribute to this, please mark your donation "Playground".

***Outreach***

We have been doing an outreach at Jack Hughston Hospital passing out care bags with water, snacks, bibles, etc for the surgical waiting rooms. These items cost money. If you would like to donate to this outreach, please mark your donations "outreach."

Also, if you would like to help with this ministry, contact Barbara Greene.



Weekly opportunities for worship:

**Sunday** — Sunday School 9:15-10:30 am  
Children's Church 10:30-11:30 am

**Wednesday** — Missions Classes for all ages 7:00-8:00 pm.

Angie Wilson, Children's Ministry Director



Keep Tony Shirley in your prayers as well as ALL our sick and homebound. As you know Tony has been to the ER twice and they kept him the second time. Nancy is with Tony and Grace Monday-Friday which is a blessing. We do our best to check on our sick and my heart goes out to all of them. We try to help brighten if nothing but one day for our loved ones. I do know there are times our sick do not feel like talking so just mail a card to let them know you are praying for them.

God Bless,

Janice ( JJ )



**WMU**® God's mission.  
Our passion.

**“LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING”**

Thank you for all your support and prayers for the more than 3,600 international missionaries. Together, we collected \$4,116.65 for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. We are grateful that we have the opportunity to be a part of God’s work around the world. We must keep praying and giving.

**“WOMEN ON MISSION”**

We had seventeen ladies at our January meeting and our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 24th at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall. This will be our annual pajama party and the menu will be “breakfast food.” All ladies are invited to join us.

**“MISSION FRIENDS” and “CHILDREN IN ACTION”**

Ms. Angie and Ms. Sarah are ready each Wednesday evening at 7:00 to teach your children about missions.

**“PRAYER FOCUS”**

Pray for ALL MISSIONARIES—Culture shock can happen any time a person moves into a new setting. Pray missionaries facing cultural adjustments, whether racial, social, or regional, would have open minds and desire to become “acceptable outsiders.”

***What JOY!***

**WMU Emphasis for 2024-2026**

**WMU WATCHWORD...**

*“Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.” (1 Thessalonians 2:8)*

**WMU OBJECTIVE...***We are passionate about the lost. We are compelled by love. We are generous in sharing. We serve with great delight (joy).*

**WMU MANDATE...** “making disciples of Jesus who live on mission”

**WMU MISSIONAL CHARACTERISTICS.**

- \* Learn about missions
- \* Pray for missions
- \* Support missions
- \* Do missions and tell about Jesus

Judie Goodson, WMU Director

## CRAWFORD ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

2706 US Highway 80 West  
Phenix City, AL 36870



*Address Label*

We're on the web:  
[crbch.com](http://crbch.com)

## CHURCH INFORMATION

### *Staff Directory...*

Ethan Graves, Pastor  
Scott Catrett, Music Minister  
Cindy Wood, Secretary

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*Watch our services on YouTube at*

*[https://www.youtube.com/@  
CrawfordRoadBaptistChurch](https://www.youtube.com/@CrawfordRoadBaptistChurch)*



### *Active Deacons...*

Scott Catrett  
Jonathan Johnston  
Tom O'Flinn  
Nathan Sadler  
David Weaver  
Hunter Wilson  
Jake Wilson  
Chris Wood  
Jay Wortley