

The month of September is always a special one and one of my favorites. We begin to contemplate cooler weather as fall begins to show its signs. There is usually some excitement in the air as college football has begun and Major League Baseball playoffs are just around the corner. There will be tailgating, grilling, cheering, and jeering. In all this activity, there is one event I do not want you to miss. That is See You at The Pole.

See You at The Pole is a youth event in which students gather around the flagpole at their schools and pray for the United States of America. This year the theme is JUST PRAY and comes from James 4:10. [“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.”](#)

If you are like me, you may be wondering, how to pray for our nation. I mean, it seems like our nation and its leaders do not want prayer. While many of us still consider this nation to be a Christian nation, the fact is, that sentiment is slipping away at a rapid pace. Moreover, those of us who have been praying for the U.S.A. feel as if our prayers are not being answered in a positive manner. The decline in morality, social turmoil, and political unrest just seems to be too much. It causes us to question what the future of this great nation holds. So, recently, I began to search the scripture for an example of how to pray. How should the righteous children of God ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)) pray for an unrighteous nation? We have a wonderful example in God’s servant, Daniel.

**STOP!** Open your Bible and read Daniel 9 before you go any further. Let us examine Daniel’s prayer for Judah. Daniel 9:3 says, [“Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.”](#) (v.3) In Daniel’s day, sackcloth and ashes was a sign of mourning. He was deeply concerned for his people. Daniel focused on God and sought Him in prayer. Before he sought answers, he sought the face of the One who COULD answer. Daniel goes on, [“I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession...”](#) (v.4) At this point, Daniel still has not made his request. He went straight from seeking God to confession. Prayer is worthless in the life of a believer who has unconfessed sin in their life. When we turn toward God and seek His face, the first thing He deals with is OUR sin ([2 Chronicles 7:14](#)). We can not ask God to heal a nation with unconfessed, unrepentant sin in our own lives. Daniel was a righteous man standing in the gap ([Ezekiel 22:30](#)). We may be set apart (by the Holy Spirit) from the iniquity of our nation. However, we must stand in the gap and pray! What does Daniel do next? Exultation. Look at verse 4 again. [““O Lord, the great and awesome God...”](#) He recognized and proclaimed the greatness and awesomeness of God. Recognize who you are praying to! Daniel spends the next few verses ([v.5-10](#)) confessing specific sins of his people and admitting what they deserve. After seeking God, confessing sin, and exalting God Daniel finally makes his request known, [“Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy, and for your own sake, O Lord, make your face to shine upon your sanctuary, which is desolate. 18 O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. 19 O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. \(Daniel 9:17-19\)](#) Wow! What a great prayer for a nation in rebellion. I suggest we use it as a model and pray like this for the United States of America! Lastly, I want you to see that Daniel recognized WHY God may answer his prayer. Do not miss these words, [“Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.”](#) Daniel uses the words [“for your own sake”](#) twice in this chapter. Listen, If God is going to answer our prayers, He will do so [for His own sake](#) - that is to say, for His own glory! If we expect God to do anything in bringing our nation back to Him, we must be prepared to seek His face, confess our sins and the sins of THIS nation, worship Him at every turn of events, and be sure...BE VERY SURE He receives all the glory and honor for the mighty acts He will perform!

*Bro. Byron Benson*

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East End Baptist Church  
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Columbus, Mississippi 39705  
“Return Service Requested”  
*East End*  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**CHURCH STAFF**

- Pastor .....Byron Benson
- Minister of Music .....Josh Tilley
- Minister of Education & Senior Adults .....Matt Moehring
- Children’s Minister ..... Heather Dees
- Preschool Director ..... Daphne Bordelon
- Ministry Assistant ..... Christie Tyndall
- Pianist .....Renee Veazey
- Custodian.....Carla Hudson

**CONTACT information**



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**YOUR GIVING MATTERS!**

**3 Ways to Give**

- During the service in the offering boxes
- Give online by going to our website: [www.eastendbc.org](http://www.eastendbc.org)
- Or give by text: Text GiveEEBC to 73256

**Margaret Lackey**  
Offering  
for  
**State Missions**  
Goal: **\$1,000**

**Sanctuary Choir**  
**Rehearsal**  
Wednesday,  
September 1  
7 p.m.

**T & N**  
TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILIES  
*Chelsea Tatum Veazey*  
&  
*Nathan Curtis Strickland*  
REQUEST THE HONOR OF YOUR COMPANY  
ON THEIR WEDDING DAY  
*Saturday, September 11, 2021*  
AT 2 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON  
EAST END BAPTIST CHURCH  
380 HIGHWAY 50 W COLUMBUS, MS 39705  
*Reception to follow*  
STEPHEN D. LEE HOME  
316 7TH STREET N. COLUMBUS, MS 39701

**Melody Drew**  
**Women on Mission Meeting**  
**for September has been**  
**cancelled**

**Senior Adult Luncheon**  
Tuesday, September 14  
11:30 a.m.  
Special Guests:  
Rudy Johnson, Executive Director of  
The Golden Triangle Planning &  
Development District  
Sharon Duke, Director of the Ship  
Program  
Discussing various benefits seniors are  
eligible for  
Sign up in the Welcome Center

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

- Wednesday, September 15
- Church Council - 5:30 p.m.
  - Finance Committee Meeting - 7 p.m.
- Sunday, September 19
- Deacons' Meeting - 4 p.m.
  - Staff Meeting - 6 p.m.

**JAMES 4:10**  
**JUST PRAY**  
**SEE YOU AT THE POLE**  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

**Praise Team Worship**  
and  
**Sanctuary Choir**  
**Fellowship**  
Saturday, September 25  
Sign up at the  
Welcome Center  
by Sunday, September 5

**Schedule**

- 12-1 p.m. Lunch for praise team
- 11-5 p.m. Workshop with Jessica Horton
- 5-6 p.m. Prepare for Choir Fellowship
- 6-7 p.m. Choir Fellowship meal at the Youth Building
- 7-8 p.m. Concert with Jessica Horton



**Senior Adult Trip to Amish Country**  
**Ethridge, TN**  
**Friday, October 1**  
Leave the church 6 a.m.  
\$5 for Hop On Tour  
Money for food and shopping  
Sign up at the Welcome Center

**CHONDA PIERCE**  
**LIVE IN CONCERT**  
**THURSDAY OCTOBER 7**  
**FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH**  
COLUMBUS, MS

**Women's Ministry Outing**  
Thursday, October 7 at 7 p.m.  
at Fairview Baptist Church  
Van leaves from EEBC at 5:45 p.m.  
Sign up at the Welcome Center

**An evening with**  
**STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN**  
SPECIAL GUEST  
**MAC POWELL**

Sunday, November 14  
Fairview Baptist Church  
Tickets: \$25  
Sign up at the Welcome Center  
by Sunday, September 5

**Men's**  
**Breakfast**

Sunday, September 5 at 7 a.m.  
Sign up sheet  
in the Welcome Center

**HAPPY**  
**LABOR DAY**  
**WEEKEND**

The Church Office will be closed  
Monday, September 6