



FBC Thomson Opportunities to Serve

Whether you are a new member or are interested in learning more about the First Baptist Thomson church family, there are many ways you can *get involved right now* in worshipping, growing, serving, and going with FBC Thomson. There is a place for you and your family here!

- Join a **Sunday School class**.
- Get involved in our **Wednesday night Disciple's Pathway** series of studies.
- Volunteer to be a part of one of our many ongoing **missions projects**.
 - ⇒ Local service projects like Mission: McDuffie, volunteering at MANNA, or helping with Drive Thru Nativity don't cost a thing to participate.
 - ⇒ Folks who go on mission trips (like Honduras or West Virginia) have to pay their own way.
 - ⇒ You can donate supplies and goods and even help us deliver them.
- Join our **adult choir/instruments/tech team**.
- Join our **greeter team**.
- Volunteer to help us **answer phones** once a week at the front desk.
- Volunteer to be an **assistant** in a children's ministry.

Be aware of some requirements involved in certain areas of ministry:

- ⇒ Working with kids or teenagers requires a background check and compliance with our child safety policies.
- ⇒ Some areas of service like teaching require a certain length of membership first;
- ⇒ Some areas of service, like deacons or committees, require membership and going through a nomination process.

If you have any questions about where you can get plugged-in or to serve, please ask one of the pastor. We can also tell you about any further requirements for specific ministries. In this packet, we want to help you discover the many opportunities for service and ministry through our church, as well as explain some of the structure, processes, and policies we follow. Here's how we want you to use this information:

- Skim through the options to see what's out there;
- Think about how God has shaped you to serve and highlight some of those options;
- Talk to someone on staff to learn more;
- Come up with an idea for a new ministry and tell us about it!

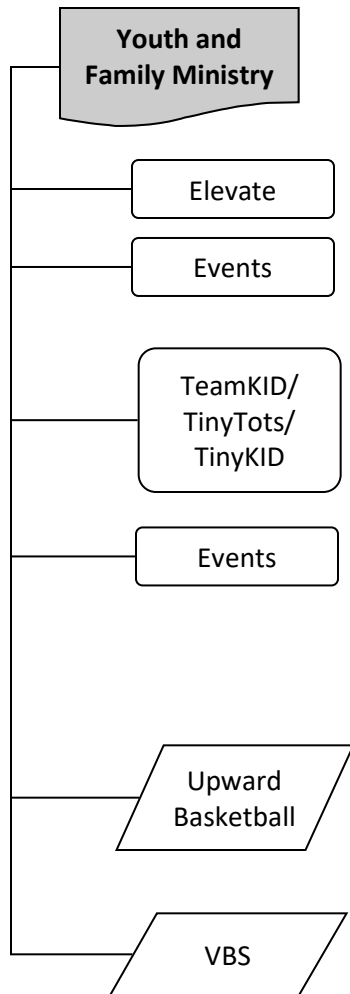
We are very much looking forward to the opportunity to serve with you and help you discover the joy of serving God in the local church. He made you for a purpose, and you will find great satisfaction in fulfilling it. Praise the Lord!

Loving God, Loving People, and Making Disciples of Jesus from All Generations.



FBC Thomson

Ministry Opportunities

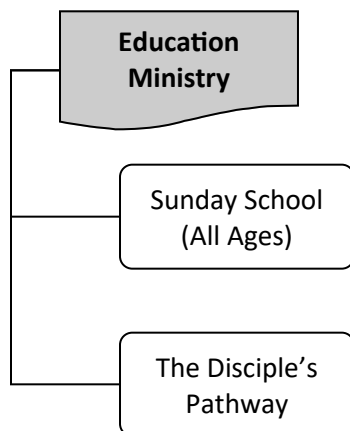


Elevate (grades 7-12) meets on Wednesday nights. The overall youth ministry, includes Sunday School on Sunday mornings and several events such as camps, mission trips, retreats, 5th Quarters, and more. Ministry opportunities include: *chaperone, teacher, mentor, leader, organizer, and more.*

TeamKID (grades 1-6), **TinyKID** (age 4– K5), and **TinyTots** (2-3) meet on Wednesday nights. This is our Kids In Discipleship ministry, and includes missions, Bible lessons, music, recreation, and snacks. Our **Kids Ministry** also includes ongoing ministries such as Sunday School and our **Children's Committee** plans additional opportunities for children to play, learn, worship, and serve. Adults and older teens can help as: *chaperone, teacher, rec, snacks, music, drivers, and more.*

Upward Basketball is one such major ministry opportunity for adults and older teens to be: *coaches, referees, security, assistants, administration, give devotionals, help with follow-up, and more.*

Vacation Bible School (**VBS**) is another great opportunity to reach and serve children in our church and community. You can help: *teach, shepherd groups, lead recreation or crafts, decorate, provide snacks, help with music or promotion or security, as well as follow-up.*



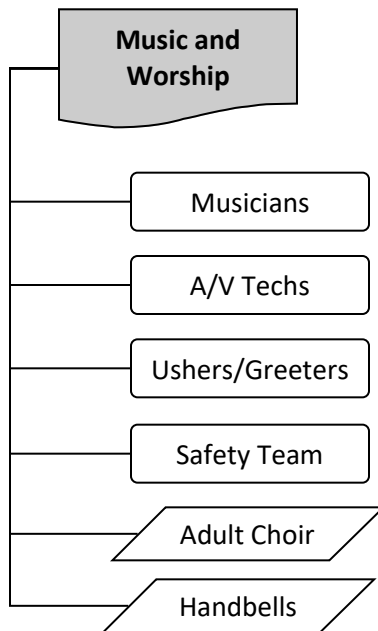
Our **Education Ministry**, under the leadership of our Associate Pastor, coordinates with our youth and family ministry to provide discipleship opportunities for everyone in our church family. Our primary ministry is **Sunday School**, where needs include: *teachers for all ages, assistants, member care, administration, outreach, and more.*

Our Wednesday evening discipleship ministry for adults is called **The Disciple's Pathway** and consists of short term studies for adults. We also have other small group Bible studies during the week. Needs include: *teachers and discussion leaders for a wide range of studies.*



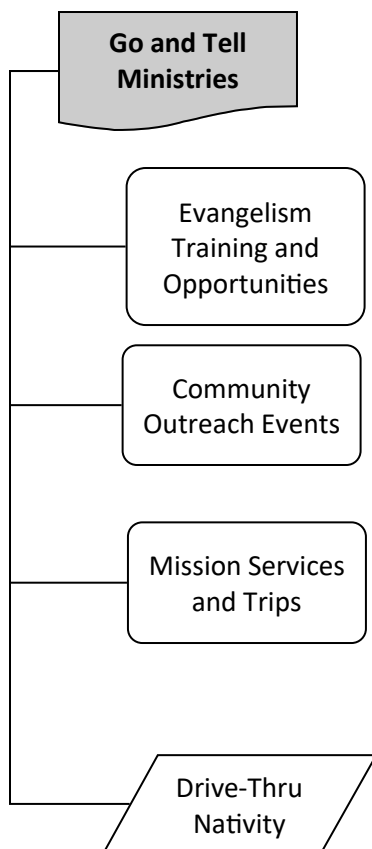
FBC Thomson

Ministry Opportunities



Our **Music and Worship Ministry** offers ways to serve, even for those who are not musically inclined. All of our church services require the ministry of several important groups:

- ⇒ **Musicians** of all kinds and abilities,
- ⇒ **Audio/Video Technicians** for sound, lighting, worship slides, and radio and online broadcasting.
- ⇒ **Ushers** and **Greeters** to welcome, direct, and assist our members and guests. **The Safety Team** helps ensure that everyone worshipping with us feels safe. They stand ready to assist in any emergency that may arise.
- ⇒ The **Adult Choir** is open to everyone who likes to sing or make music to the Lord.
- ⇒ Our **Baptism Team** helps coordinate baptisms.
- ⇒ Our **Decorating Team** decorates our sanctuary seasonally and for special worship services.



There are many service opportunities in the area of **Evangelism and Missions**, what we call "Go and Tell" ministries that help us reach our neighbors and the nations for Jesus. Opportunities for service include:

- ⇒ helping others learn how to share the Gospel through a variety of methods,
- ⇒ organizing evangelistic efforts in our community,
- ⇒ working with our annual events to help us connect with and share Christ with those in our community, such as Fall Festival, Spring Extravaganza, Fourth of July outreaches, and others. *You can help organize, promote, man a station, provide resources, or help with registration, or follow-up.*

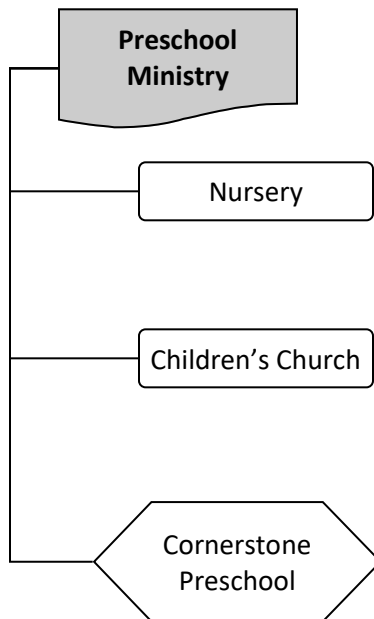
FBC Thomson also participates in a number of mission projects including Mission: McDuffie, SafeHomes Women's Shelter, trips to Honduras, West Virginia, and Gatlinburg, and other local mission opportunities. You can serve in countless ways on mission: *Lead or participate on a trip, volunteer for local home repair, donate or deliver supplies, provide financial support, pray, and more.*

One local mission project is our annual Drive-Thru Nativity, with a tremendous number of opportunities for service, including: *decorators, actors, construction, greeters, costumes, hospitality, traffic and security, follow-up, and more.*



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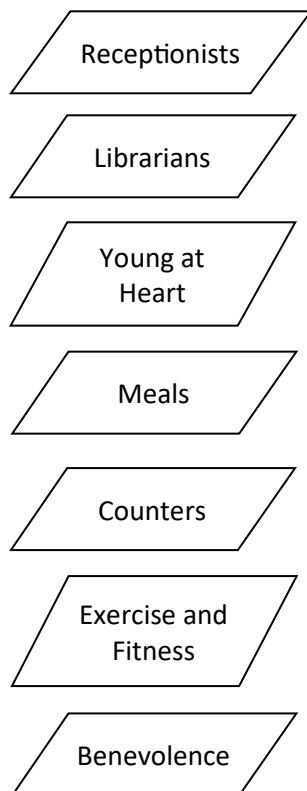
Ministry Opportunities



Our **Preschool Ministry** offers care and teaching for the youngest members of our family at most services and events. The Nursery needs: *teachers, assistants, greeters, and people to hold a baby or play with a toddler.*

Children's Church offers preschoolers through Kindergarten an opportunity to spend part of the worship hour in age-appropriate worship activities and lessons. Opportunities include: *teachers, assistants, and help with snacks or other resources*

FBC Thomson also offers a **weekday preschool ministry** which operates separately from our church preschool ministry in that teachers and workers are formally hired. You would need to talk to our Preschool Director about service opportunities here.



There are quite a few additional ways most people can serve:

Receptionists help the office staff answer phones and greet people who come into the church building.

Librarians operate our Media Center, helping people identify resources and keeping everything organized.

Young at Heart is a fellowship opportunity for our senior adults. They meet regularly and take trips together.

There are many different opportunities for our church to provide **meals** at certain events such as funerals, church wide fellowships, and staff receptions that require preparation, serving, and cleaning.

We use teams of people to **count** our tithes and offerings (membership is required to handle money).

We have a wonderful **exercise** facility, including a walking track, a weight room, and a full-size basketball court. We need church members to help us coordinate and assist in their use.

People suffer hardships and tragedies all too frequently; we need church members to help us minister to people in **need**.

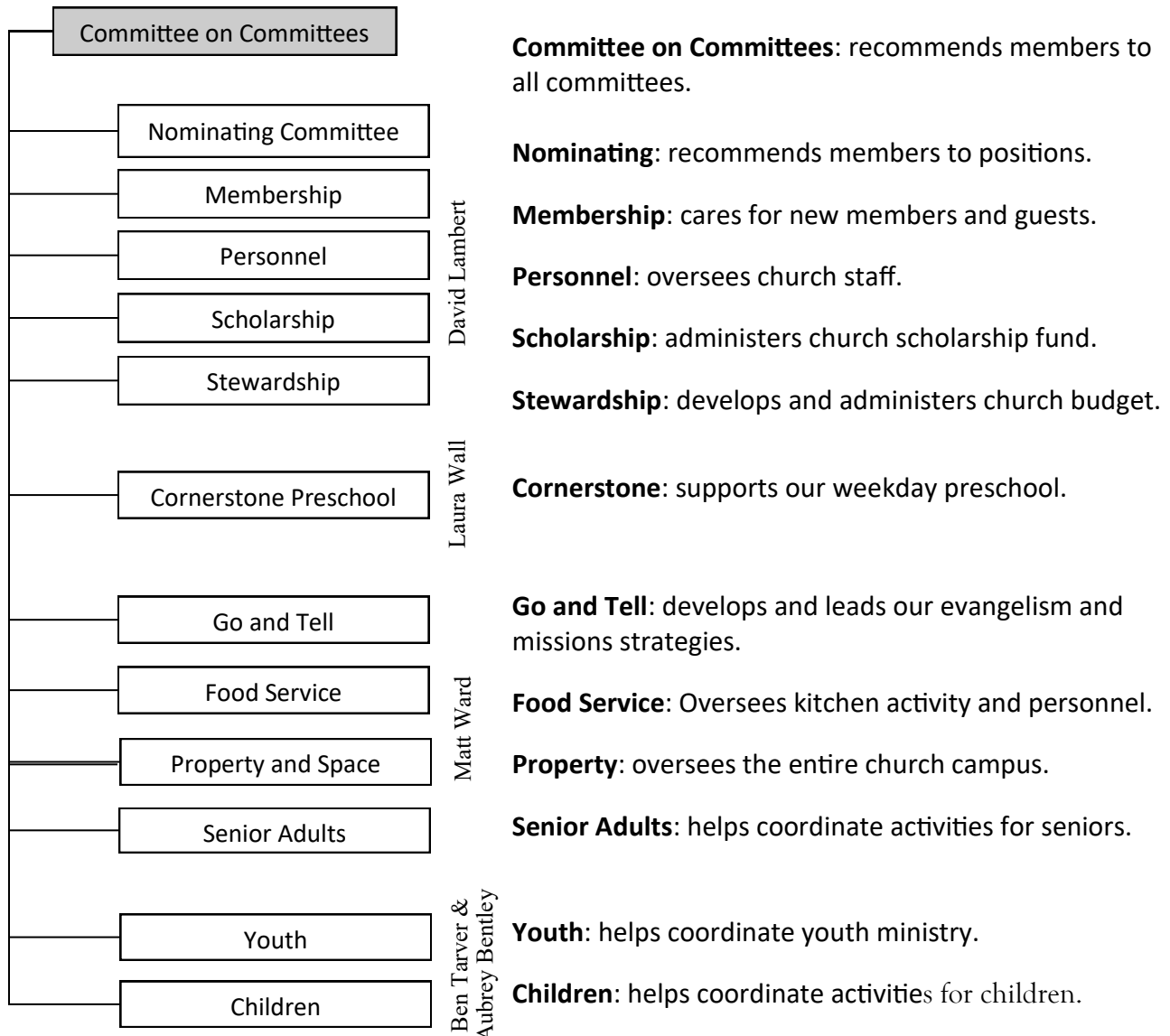
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Committee Structure



Committees are unique teams on which members serve for a three-year rotation. Church members who are not committee members can still help with projects and events coordinated by a committee.



FBC Thomson

Unique Church Structures

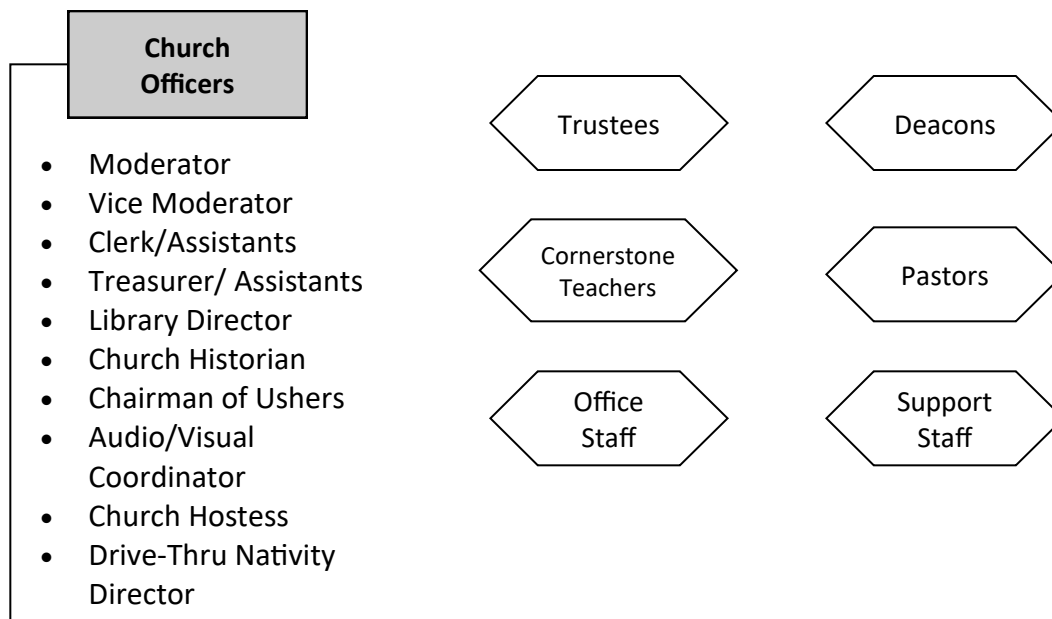


To be thorough, we want to make sure you know about the rest of our church structure. These are not positions that church members “volunteer” for — they each have their own unique methods of being filled, either by appointment, election, or a formal hiring process.

Although we are a church and not a civic institution, the federal, state and local governments require us to follow certain guidelines. We also have to pay our bills, keep track of everyone’s generous gifts to the church, and be responsible for an expansive campus. Those positions understandably demand a high level of accountability.

Church members serve as our officers, trustees, and deacons. They have “official” responsibility for our people, our property, and our finances. In addition, the church hires individuals to serve on our staff, including our ordained pastors, those who work in our offices, and those who care for our facility.

If you want to learn more about any of these positions, all you need to do is ask one of our staff members. We would be happy to tell you everything you want to know! We are so grateful for everyone who has stepped into these and all of our very important positions of leadership, responsibility, and accountability.



FBC Thomson

Finances and Stewardship



God expects to be first in every part of our lives, including our money. He commanded the Israelites to bring a “tithe” (10%) of their increase as well as additional offerings. Jesus told us not to be legalistic when it comes to giving, but He also expects His followers to give generously and sacrificially to His Kingdom. We believe that Christians are to support the work of God in their community through their local church. First Baptist Church has a **Unified Budget** that is created by our **Stewardship Committee** and voted on by the church body. All tithes and “undesignated” offerings go toward the budget fund. We also encourage our members to give specific offerings “beyond the tithe.”

If you want to give to one of these special offerings, you need to “designate” on your check (or on your offering envelope) how much money goes into which fund. Our financial secretary will take care of it from there.

Undesignated Giving



Staff salaries
Utilities and insurance
Campus maintenance
Local ministry: *Children, youth, music, men, women, etc.*
Local missions: *Nativity, broadcasting, events*
Baptist partnerships
Supplies



Manna Ministries,
Kilpatrick Baptist Assoc.,
Georgia Baptist (GB)
Children’s Home,
GB Disaster relief,
Smoky Mountain
Resort Ministries,
Volunteer projects,
and more.

Designated Giving Funds

Capital Needs

**CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS**

Vision
IMPLEMENTATION

Seasonal Missions

LMCO
—
LOTTIE
MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING*

**MISSION
GEORGIA**

*ANNIE
ARMSTRONG*
EASTER OFFERING*
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

We believe that it is our responsibility as a church to help our members understand biblical stewardship (how we use our finances), so we offer several resources designed to educate us how God wants us to approach money, such as financial classes and tools in our **Faith @ Home** center. At any point, any church member can request to see a current financial statement.

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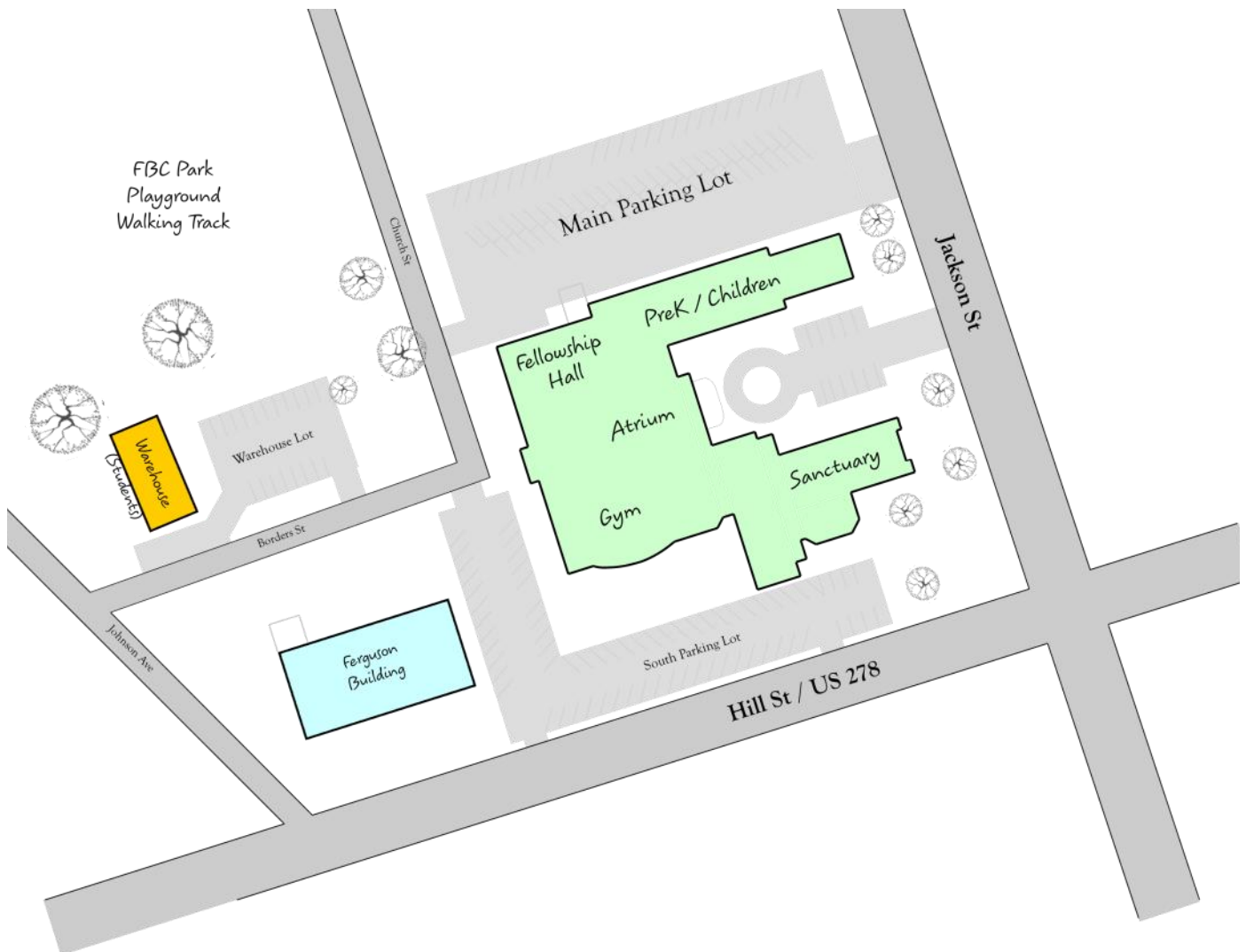


FBC Thomson Campus Map

We have been blessed with a multi-building campus. Most things you will need are in our main building, but here is an overview of the entire campus:

- ⇒ *Warehouse*: Youth Ministry building
- ⇒ *Ferguson Building*: currently workshop and storage
- ⇒ *Park and Walking Track*: open to the community

Most parking will give you easy access to our main building, though we reserve the spots closest to the doors for our guests, senior adults, and parents of young children.

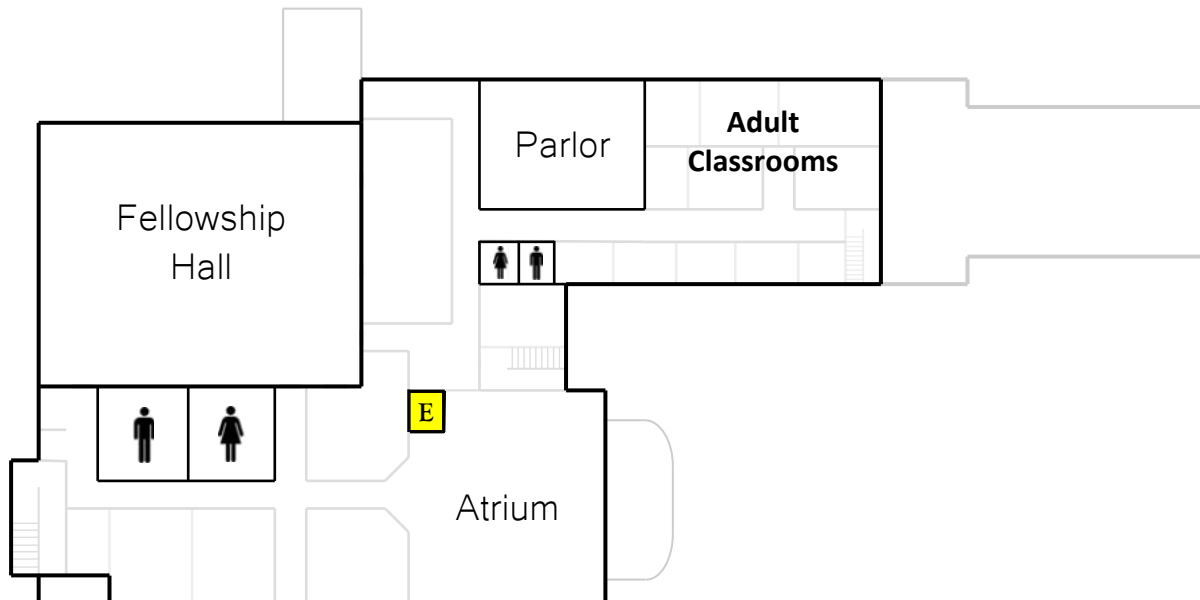




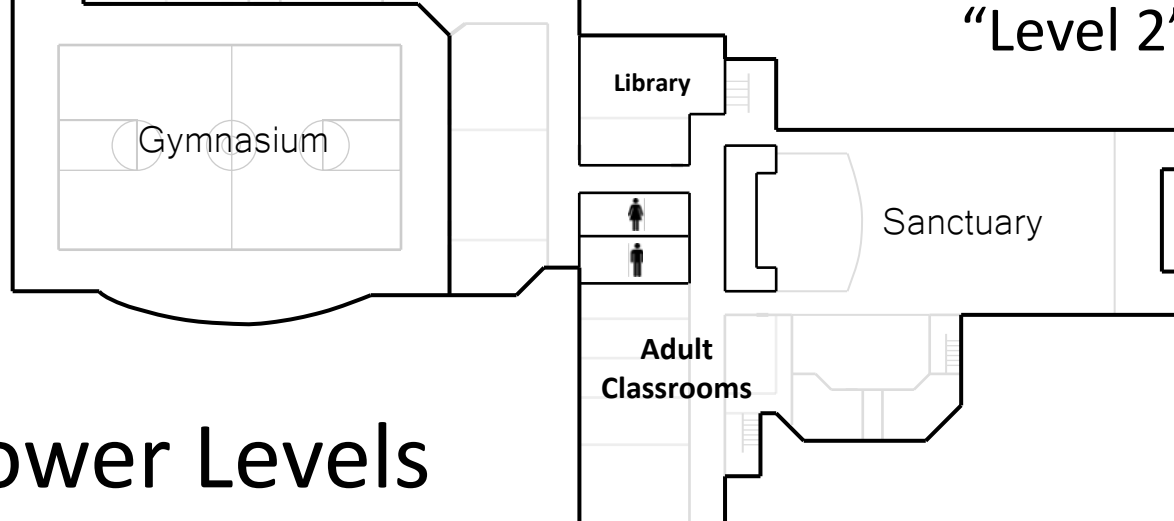
FBC Thomson Main Building

Do you feel confused when you walk into our building? Join the club! The church property has been on this corner for over 100 years and is actually three separate buildings that have expanded and joined together. It makes for a great story, but can take some getting used to. Here are the essential landmarks you will want to know about our main building:

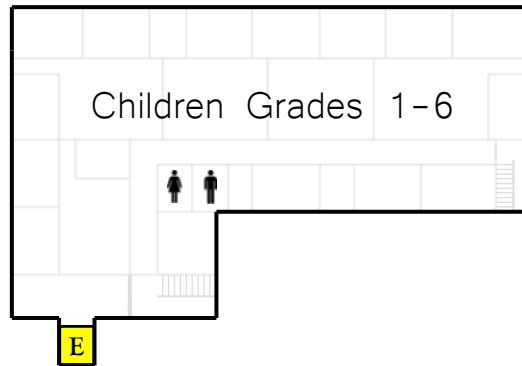
“Level 1”



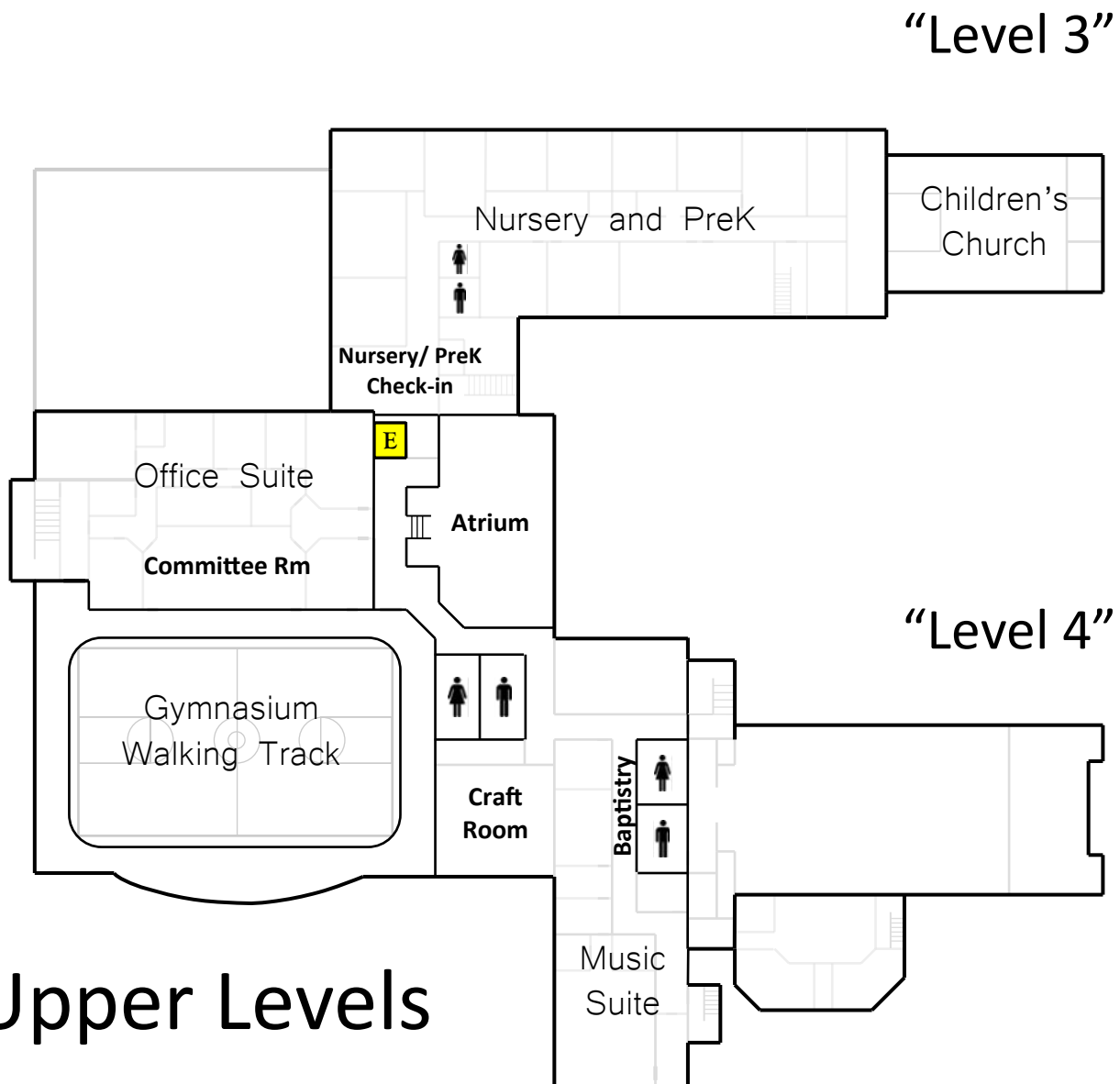
“Level 2”



Lower Levels



“Level 5”



“Level 3”

“Level 4”

Upper Levels

More About First Baptist Church, Thomson, Georgia

FBC Thomson

Deacons 2024



If you ever need help or prayer, these men are here to serve our church family.

Chairman Jay Poston

Vice Chairman Bill Reese

Secretary Bob Manning

Andy Allen
Blake Allen
Chase Beggs
Keith Beggs
James Bridges
Sammy Doolittle
Andrew Harding
Bob Hughes
Cliff Langham
Paul Leroy
Bob Manning
Danny Matthews
Charles McDonald
John Osborne
Stephen Palmer
Tommy Phelps
Philip Pirkle
Cliff Poston
Drue Poston
Jay Poston
Bill Reese
Brad Smith
Stephen Swann
Mark Watkins

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