



THE CORNERSTONE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH THOMSON

*Loving God, Loving People,
Making Disciples of Jesus*

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September



HOPE FOR A WORLD IN DESPAIR

When you look around at our world, there are too many problems for you to fix alone. Mission Georgia unites hundreds of local Georgia Baptist churches to resolve these issues because we are better together.



**YOUR MISSION GEORGIA OFFERING BRINGS
HOPE AND HELPS PROVIDE GOSPEL-CENTERED
CARE TO EVERY GEORGIA COMMUNITY.**

Our Church Emphasis Dates: September 11-18

Our 2022 Church Offering Goal: \$3,500

2023-2025
Deacon Nominees:

Blake Allen
Bobby Anthony
Sammy Doolittle
Bob Hughes
Paul Leroy
John Osborne
Randy Pilgrim
Philip Pirkle
Jay Poston
Derrell Rushing
Brad Smith
Jerry Varnadoe
Mark Watkins

Sunday School Big Breakfast & "No Sweat" Evangelism Training with Brad Marchman

Sunday, September 25; 9:00 AM

Dr. David Lambert, Lead Pastor

On Sundays we are learning from James to have a “faith that works.” Below are some opportunities coming up in September to have a fruitful faith that compassionately cares, that uses our words wisely to share the Gospel and encourage others, and strives to be salt and light in our lost world.

Compassionately Care: We are excited to again host a *One Day Fun Day* in partnership with the Georgia Baptist Mission Board (GBMB) to minister to foster care families in our region. I’m overwhelmed by the great response from our people to volunteer, and we now have everyone we need! I do want to ask you to pray for this event that a great number of families come, and they hear and respond to the Gospel.

This event is made possible through the Mission: Georgia Offering, which is our September emphasis, along with the Week of Prayer for State Missions, September 11-18. Pick up a prayer guide on September 11 and consider how you can give to further the work of the GBMB through this offering.

Wise Words: There are so many wise and powerful ways we can use our words as Christians! We can pray for others (such as the *One Day Fun Day*, the GBMB, and the youth’s Labor Day Gatlinburg Mission Trip). We can raise our voices in worship and praise, as I hope you do with us every Sunday. We have some great worship opportunities this month that include parent-child dedications and a Baptism Sunday on the 11th! *Contact the church if you are interested in learning more about baptism.*

One of the greatest ways we can use our words is to share the Gospel. I’m thrilled for Brad Marchman to come on September 25 for a “No Sweat Evangelism” training to encourage and equip us to share our faith with others. He will lead the training through a combined Sunday School (with a Big Breakfast at 9 AM) and in worship. I want to encourage everyone to make this Sunday a priority in your schedule.

Being Salt and Light: God uses His Spirit and His Word to equip, encourage, and empower us to “keep ourselves unstained from the world.” And He has also given us His People—the church! As our church prayerfully selects 8 godly men from a list of 13 nominees to serve as deacons, we are engaging as a church family in God’s work to strengthen the Body and “equip the saints to do the work of ministry.” Please pray about your vote on September 11 in the Deacon Selection process. I’m so appreciative of all the men who willingly said “yes” to serving if selected. And I’m thankful for those who did not feel God’s leadership to serve at this time, because I know they considered it prayerfully.

These are only a few of the ways we can put our faith to work this month. Please read the rest of this *Cornerstone* newsletter, especially Matt and Ben’s articles, to learn of more ways you can give, pray, serve, and go to further our church’s calling to “love God, love people, and make disciples for Jesus from all generations!” I’m thrilled to pastor this loving, growing, and giving church! God has great things in store for First Baptist Thomson!



Dr. Matt Ward

Sunday School Big Breakfast on September 25

David has told you about our guest preacher on September 25 — Brad Marchman from the Georgia Baptist Mission Board — and he may have spilled the news about Brad also leading a joint Sunday School. I'm really excited about this. Ordinarily, you might expect to see this breakfast happen earlier in the month, but taking full advantage of Brad's presence with us on the 25th is too good to pass up. Brad's the Evangelism Catalyst for our region, and not only does he want to encourage us as a church, but he also has a few things he can teach us. Breakfast starts at 9:00, and it's for everybody. At around 9:40, we will dismiss the kids to their classes, and we want everybody else to stay in the fellowship hall for this very special training opportunity.

(Incidentally, Brad will have taught this class the day before at an event called "Crossover Martinez", Martinez being the least-churched zip code in our region. If you're interested in learning more about *that* event, please let me know.)

Campus Improvements Continue

Some of you noticed that the Warehouse got a good bath a few weeks ago. That was one of those projects in which coordinating availability with the weather just took a long time. We're running into that with a lot of projects on our to-do list. Two projects in particular have been on our list for a while, and we're just now seeing hope that we might be able to shepherd them to completion in the next month or two — the outdoor handrails, and the drycleaner's drive-thru. What we're running into is that same thing that many of you are in your workplaces — there just aren't enough skilled people available to do the work that needs to be done. Please be patient with us just as we're being patient with the people who are trying to fit us onto their work calendars.

Community Chorus Opportunity for Christmas

Bill Hobbins is the music director at First Methodist, and before that he had been the choral director for Augusta University. He's a very talented director with a long history of working with large choral groups. And more to the point, he has offered to lead a community Christmas chorus for McDuffie County. It will not be Handel's "Messiah" this time — Bill has selected a range of familiar and popular Christmas songs in hopes that it might encourage more community members to come out and sing. They will be doing rehearsals on Monday evenings in October and November. If you (or somebody you know) want to learn more, please let me know, and I will gladly fill you in!

The Organ Is Paid For!

We continue to get money in to the Organ Fund, and guess what? The organ is paid for! We are thrilled and thankful for everyone who made it possible for us to purchase our new organ. Just FYI — we have money left in the fund; I am going to put that money toward a system that will help our organist monitor the other musicians. The beauty of our new organ is that Linda can hear herself infinitely better than before, but now it's harder to hear everyone else. We're still investigating solutions; everything that looks effective isn't cheap, so I'm glad to have some money already available to make that happen.



Rev. Ben Tarver

This summer was packed with fun events but as a new school year begins, we look forward to our regular time of Bible Study, music, games, and missions. We had a wonderful kickoff for TinyKid, TeamKid and Elevate on Wednesday, August 10. Be in prayer for our wonderful volunteer leaders as they plan and prepare each week. (Also, we could always use more leaders in these areas!)

Be in prayer for our Cornerstone Preschool, our new director (Laura Wall), teachers, students, and their families as they prepare to start back soon. We have over 60 kids this year – one of the largest groups ever for our preschool! Cornerstone Preschool is a wonderful ministry for our church and provides an excellent way for us to reach young families in our community!

We have high school youth, college students and adult volunteers traveling to Gatlinburg, Tennessee again this year to partner with Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries. We are so thankful that as of now there are no restrictions from Covid or illness that will hinder our efforts! Pray that this will continue. The youth will lead worship at several campgrounds and will continue to make improvements to the wonderful new home and retreat center for SMRM. Our church's partnership with SMRM goes back decades and we look forward to getting back and sharing the good news of Jesus!

Please be in prayer for our One Day, Fun Day festival event specifically for foster care families in the surrounding area. It will be Saturday, September 25 from 11 AM to 3 PM. Last year's event was a great time for all! We will have bounce houses, slides, a dunking booth, face painting, balloon animals, a magician and more! The Georgia Baptist Mission Board partners with us and helps with the funding. Our church's tithes and offerings play a part in making this possible!



Last Month

We Came	Morning Worship	Sunday School	Wednesday	We Gave
July 31	332	196	24	\$30,045.29
August 7	384	212	32	\$19,184.00
August 14	386	205	107	\$16,788.00
August 21	295	201	103	\$14,932.72
BUDGET		NON-BUDGET		
Required	\$517,311.69	Cap. Improvements		\$12,329.00
Received	\$505,369.31	Ferguson Property		\$3,250.00
Disbursed	\$465,162.03	Go & Tell Mission Fund		\$21,565.00

End-of-July Final Finances



The church office will be closed Monday, September 5 for Labor Day.

\$5.50 ADULTS — \$3.00 UNDER AGE 12
PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY NOON ON MONDAYS

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER

Wednesdays, 5:00 PM

Fellowship Hall

September 7

Pork Chops

September 14

Taco Bar

September 21

Hot Dogs and Chili

September 28

Country Fried Steak



September 24

11 AM

One Day Fun Day

For Foster Care Families

Young @ Heart

Young at Heart

Tuesday, September 13

11:00 AM



SEE YOU AT THE POLE
SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries



Youth Mission Trip
September 3-5

We have quite a few wooden chairs that we need to find a new home for.



If you would like some of these we would ask that you consider making a \$10 (per chair) donation.

September Ministry Donation
Fleece Blankets for the baskets for the Women's Shelter.



Please place blankets in the blue bin in the atrium.

SEPTEMBER

SUN	9:00	Cornerstone Cafe
	9:30	Sunday School
	10:45	Morning Worship
MON	9:00	Walking Track open (until 5:00 PM)
	9:00	Nautilus Room open (until 1:00 PM)
	10:00	Stretch & Flex, Gym
TUE	9:00	Walking Track open (until 5:00 PM)
	9:00	Nautilus Room open (until 1:00 PM)
	10:00	Church Staff Meeting, 402
WED	9:00	Walking Track open (until 5:00 PM)
	9:00	Nautilus Room open (until 1:00 PM)
	10:00	Stretch & Flex, Gym
	5:00	Family Night Supper, FH
	5:30	Open Warehouse
	6:00	<i>Disciples Pathway</i> (Adults, Fellowship Hall)
	6:00	TinyKID (Ages 3-K), Chapel
	6:00	TeamKID (Grades 1-6), Gym
	6:00	Elevate (Grades 7-12), WH
	7:15	Adult Choir Rehearsal, S
THU	6:30	<i>Stand in the Gap</i> Prayer Group, Parlor
	9:00	Walking Track open (until 5:00 PM)
	9:00	Nautilus Room open (until 1:00 PM)
FRI	9:00	Walking Track open (until 5:00 PM)
	9:00	Nautilus Room open (until 1:00 PM)
	10:00	Stretch & Flex, Gym

Thursday, September 1

6:00 PM Cornerstone Preschool Open House

September 3-5

Gatlinburg Mission Trip

Sunday, September 4

10:45 AM Jeff Harris Preaching

Monday, September 5

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 6

9:00 AM First Day of Cornerstone Preschool

September 11-18

Week of Prayer for Georgia Missions

Sunday, September 11

10:45 AM Baptism Sunday

Deacon Selection Sunday

Monday, September 12

6:00 PM Property and Space Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 13

11:00 AM Young at Heart

6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting

7:00 PM **Deacon's Meeting**

Saturday, September 24

11:00 AM One Day Fun Day

Sunday, September 25

9:00 AM **Big Breakfast and "No Sweat" Evangelism Training**

10:45 AM Brad Marchman Preaching

Wednesday, September 28

See You At The Pole