



THE CORNERSTONE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH **THOMSON**

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

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FEBRUARY

NEXT
 **STEPS**
luncheon →

February 5

Immediately Following Worship

For Guests and New Members



Ash Wednesday Service

February 22

6:00 PM

TRIUMPHANT QUARTET

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AT 7:00 PM



Dr. David Lambert, Lead Pastor

2023 is off to a fantastic start at FBC Thomson! We've enjoyed some special moments together celebrating God's gift of children and committing to His plan for raising them, welcoming new guests in worship, and seeing people join the church. Thanks be to God for His goodness and grace! I'm also thankful to know that so many people are finding this sermon series helpful, as we look at "**The Full Armor of God**" in Ephesians 6:10-20. I pray you'll join us this month as we conclude this important series of messages. This month gives us more opportunities together to stand firm against the Enemy and advance God's Kingdom.

Our **Next Steps Luncheon** helps our worship guests, new members, and those considering joining our church to learn more about FBC Thomson and the "next steps" they can take in their walk with Christ and in the life of our church. Join us on February 5th for lunch and information about FBC Thomson. We will have nursery and children's activities after lunch. Sign-up by calling the church office.

Ash Wednesday, on the 22nd, begins the season of Lent. It is a special service of contemplation, confession, and repentance that reminds us of God's grace and forgiveness through faith in Jesus. We will have a nursery and TinyKID for our youngest children, but TeamKID and youth will join us for this service.

You'll notice an announcement in this newsletter about collecting pasta sauce for Manna. Given the rising inflation, Manna has to buy food items at retail prices and Golden Harvest has limited the items they can purchase through them. You and I both know how much less the dollars we give are able to go at these costs. So Manna has asked us to collect jars of pasta sauce (regular sized) of any flavor. Please bring them to the church office, rather than place them in the Blue Bin, since they are glass and could break. Pray for Manna, that God would supply their need. And be open to the opportunities God gives you to be the answer to that prayer! Manna serves our community so well. In 2022, they gave away approximately 4,552 shopping carts full of food! They adopted 42 families for Christmas, provided meals at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and gave away coats, fans, heaters, and more—all in the name of Jesus!

Finally, allow me to ask for your prayers for me this upcoming month. I will be undergoing surgery on March 1st at Piedmont Atlanta hospital to repair an issue with my stomach. I will be at home for 2 weeks in recovery, on a limited diet. The surgeon has strongly urged me to not rush back into things, and to allow others to preach for several weeks as I heal. I'll share more about those plans in the March *Cornerstone Newsletter*. For now I simply ask for your prayers as I make preparations to be away from the church office and most activities for 2-3 weeks in March, as I prepare ahead for my messages for Palm Sunday and Easter, and for the surgery to go smoothly and my recovery to be swift yet complete. And in all honesty, you should probably pray for Julia during those few weeks, as well! I am grateful for my family and our staff and dedicated servants of God in our church in whose hands I know things will be in good shape.

Thankful to be your pastor,



Dr. Matt Ward

***Potential* Wild Game Supper in 2024**

We have some interest in hosting a Wild Game Supper and Business Expo again. It's been years, and of course the community would love for us to bring it back (who wouldn't? a great event with free food).

It's also an incredible amount of work. Our purpose for hosting an event like this would be

- To share the gospel with everyone who attends,
- To build bridges with our community, and
- To make some fun memories for our church members.

We increase the efficacy of this event if what we do is well-planned, well-supplied, well-staffed, and well-supported. And really, if we don't have enough support from our church family, there's no reason even to put this on the calendar. Here are the sorts of things we would need:

- Donated wild game
- People to turn that wild game into good food
- Help connecting with local businesses
- Help promoting this event
- Lots of greeters and workers the day of the event
- Help following up with all of our guests

At a minimum, we would expect all of our church members to join us in praying through the planning, execution, and follow-up.

Here's what we need from you now: We are going to take the month of February to find out how many of you would be willing to help us make this happen. You can respond on our connect card. You can contact me or Drue Poston directly. Or just drop a note to the church office. If there's a good response, we will put together a planning meeting in March and try to get this rolling. We tentatively hope to have this in mid-March of 2024, so that would give us a year to put it all together. So, what do you say? Will you help?

Triumphant in Concert

Fresh off of a new album release, Triumphant is back on tour, and they will be making a stop here at First Baptist!

Triumphant in Concert

Friday, February 24, 7:00 PM



As has become our tradition, we have made this a free concert for our community (love offering is taken up to give to Triumphant). There is no reserved seating, and the doors will open at 6:00 PM. These guys are the best in the country at what they do—which is sing amazing music to the glory of Jesus in a wide range of styles.

Come, and invite your friends!

Rev. Ben Tarver

Upward Basketball season is here! Weekly practices and Saturday games will continue until March 11. There were almost 100 children and twenty youth and adult volunteers that helped at our Upward Basketball Camp on January 21. It was an exciting time as kids rotated between stations to learn the fundamentals of basketball. Now they will face off weekly in games between 9AM and 1PM on Saturdays. Feel free to stop by and see a game. You will certainly be entertained. If a family, business, or Sunday school class would like to donate items for our Upward Basketball Celebration, it would be greatly appreciated. Things such as gift cards and prizes are given out to all the participants. You can also give a monetary donation and we will use this money to purchase some items. Upward Celebration will be Saturday, March 11 at 5:00 PM. This is always a fun conclusion to the season as we honor our teams and volunteers.

The Faith @ Home Center has resources ready to go for your family! If you have not gone by there in a while, please visit and look over the biblical guides we have for any family dynamic and a variety of life issues (i.e. finances, engagement, grandchildren, family worship, etc.). Soon we will have resources for Valentines Day, Spring Family Activities, and Ash Wednesday. Do not miss these resources that help to build up the foundation of your family on the solid rock of Jesus.

The youth will join other youth groups in Louisville, GA on Sunday, January 29 for a 5th Sunday Youth Worship Night. Davy Lloyd, Mike Lloyd's son, is a youth pastor there and we will be getting together with his church and community for a night of worship, food and a message. I pray this will be a good partnership to continue and an opportunity for our youth to meet other Christian youth in a nearby county. We are planning for our own group to host and welcome them in return in the near future.

Ben

Last Month

We Came	Morning Worship	Sunday School	We Gave
December 18	166	171	\$13,255.00
December 25	254	N/A	\$23,136.28
January 1	300	129	\$13,385.00
January 8	232	204	\$16,346.10
January 15	233	203	\$13,934.00
January 22	230	188	\$11,911.50
BUDGET		NON-BUDGET	
Required	\$886,820.00	Cap. Improvements	\$24,904.00
Received	\$896,208.19	Ferguson Property	\$6,210.00
Disbursed	\$841,474.42	Go & Tell Mission Fund	\$41,293.42

*End-of-
December
Final Finances*

Youth Summer Camp



July 11-16

Look Up Lodge
Travelers Rest, SC

\$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

February 1
Sub Sandwiches
February 8
Tacos
February 15
Baked Chicken
February 22
Salad Bar



Ash Wednesday Service
February 22
6:00 PM

Nursery and TinyKID will still meet.
Everyone else will be in the sanctuary.



February 5

Immediately Following Worship

Whether you're a guest or a new member, we hope that you will join us for lunch to learn more about our church and why membership is important.

Pasta Sauce for Manna



Manna is in need of pasta sauce of any variety. You can leave the pasta sauce in the blue bin in the atrium.

If you bring glass jars, please bring them to the church office.

Young @ Heart

Tuesday, February 14
11:00 AM

Special Guests:
The Enopion Theatre

RSVP by February 9



Mark Your Calendars!
VBS 2023

Age 4-6th grade
June 18-22, 6-8:30 PM
Family Night June 23, 6-8:30 PM

FEBRUARY

Monthly Ministry Donation Items:

ORAL HYGEINE
*Toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss,
small bottles of mouthwash*

Please bring your items and place them in the blue box in the atrium.

FEBRUARY

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
5:00 Firm Believers, Gym

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 *Disciples Pathway* (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 *Stand in the Gap* Prayer Group, Parlor
9:00 Walking Track open (until 5:00 PM)
9:00 Nautilus Room open (until 1:00 PM)
5:00 Firm Believers, Gym

FRI 9:00 Walking Track open (until 5:00 PM)
9:00 Nautilus Room open (until 1:00 PM)
10:00 Stretch & Flex, Gym

Saturday, February 4

9:00 AM Upward Games

Sunday, February 5

Name Tag Sunday

12:00 PM Next Steps Luncheon

Saturday, February 11

9:00 AM Upward Games

Tuesday, February 14

11:00 AM Young at Heart

6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting

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

Thursday, February 16

1:30-5:30 PM Bloodmobile Blood Drive

Saturday, February 18

9:00 PM Upward Games

Sunday, February 19

10:45 AM Baptism Sunday

Tuesday, February 21

In-house Registration for Cornerstone Preschool Begins

Wednesday, February 22

6:00 PM **Ash Wednesday Service with Lord's Supper**

Friday, February 24

7:00 PM Triumphant Quartet in Concert

Saturday, February 25

9:00 AM Upward Games