



THE CORNERSTONE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH THOMSON

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

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AUGUST

August 7

Promotion Sunday

Bibles Presented to
First Graders in Worship
Deacon Nominations

August 10

Wednesday Night Kick-Off
For Kids and Youth
TinyKid Age 3-K5
TeamKid 1-6 Grade
Elevate 7-12 Grade

NEXT



STEPS

luncheon

Sunday, August 28

Dr. David Lambert, Lead Pastor

August has always seemed like a second New Years to me. As a student, it always represented a new school year with new classes and teachers, sometimes a new school. It was a chance to start over, a fresh page. As a youth pastor, and now as a parent, it still has that same feeling. Families are back from summer vacations, there's a renewed stability as kids are back in school, and it gives our church's ministries a fresh start, a blank page. I pray this August, whether you have kids in school or not, you'll see this month as an opportunity to begin anew in your spiritual walk. Maybe you've been gone and busy a lot this summer (maybe you've just grown a little apathetic). I pray you'll rejoin us in worship, Sunday School, and on Wednesday nights. We would love to see you back on a regular basis! Use this month to restart a daily time of prayer and in God's Word. Get involved in a ministry through the church. Recommit to tithing and generously sharing your resources with God's Kingdom. TOGETHER, we can *Love God, Love People, and Make Disciples of Jesus from All Generations* as we:

Come to Worship—I'm continuing my new sermon series on *James: Faith that Works*. We haven't been long in James, so join us on Sundays and discover how your faith can make a difference in your life and in the lives of those around you. On August 7, we celebrate with those children and their families who were in worship with us this summer with a Pizza with the Pastors lunch and games, right after worship. On August 21, we will observe the Lord's Supper, and we are looking at several parent-child dedications and baptisms this month!

On August 28, I'm excited that we will be offering another *Next Steps Luncheon* for new members of our church family and those interested in learning more about our church and potentially becoming members themselves. Please make your reservation in the church office by August 24.

Grow in Groups—August is a great time to renew your involvement in a small group Bible study. Of course, our children and teenagers will be in their new classes in Sunday School on August 7 when we will also present Bibles to our new 1st Graders in worship. No matter your age, there is a Sunday morning class for you! See Matt Ward for more information.

On August 10, we will kick off our Wednesday night schedule for the Fall, with supper at 5 PM, TinyKID and TeamKID for children, Elevate for youth, and Disciple's Path for Adults. On August 10, the adults will be finishing our viewing and discussion of *The Chosen's* second season. But on August 17, I'll begin a study of "The Bible in Its World," helping us dig deeper into beloved Bible stories using the history, geography, and culture of Israel and the Holy Lands.

Serve in Love—There are many ways you can express your love for God and others by serving from your God-given SHAPE! This month I want to ask you to pray about the upcoming *One Day Fun Day* for foster care children and families on September 24. We will need several smiling faces to greet families, adults to supervise activities, and hands to help with set-up and tear-down.

On August 7, we will be nominating men to serve the next three-year term as deacons. Our deacon ministry is an important service ministry in our church. You should have received a sample ballot along with a reminder of the qualifications of a deacon. Use these to prayerfully prepare to nominate up to 8 men that Sunday, and then to make final selections from the nominees on September 11.

Go and Tell—You can use any opportunity this month as a chance to invite a lost or unchurched person to join you. But I want you to especially use August as a chance to reinvite someone to worship, to reach out to a friend or family member who has been on the fence about coming to a Bible study or worship, to encourage someone to attend our *Next Steps Luncheon*, or to profess their faith through Baptism. Pray for the lost and unchurched in our community, and pray with me for God to work through our church to make this a fantastic Fall at FBC Thomson!

David

Dr. Matt Ward

Back to School!

No one needs me to say that school seems to start earlier and earlier :) The start of the school year means a number of things, and it's always good to be reminded of what they are:

- **Time to Pray for Students and Teachers.** The direction our country is going should be a clarion call to the importance of our education system. Pray for a double portion of God's blessing on our teachers, and pray that God would put a listening spirit into our students.
- **Time to Listen for Opportunities to Support Our Schools.** Through our Go and Tell fund, we give a "welcome gift" of supplies to new teachers in the public schools (there are almost 50 this year!) as to encourage them and let them know we are here. We also contribute school supplies to Partners for Success because they do so much to help us be good stewards of our benevolence funds. Thank you for making those donations possible.
- **Time to Commit to Regular Church Attendance.** Everyone understands how tricky routines are in the summertime. The start of the school year is the perfect opportunity to commit to getting back in the habit of coming to Bible study and worship regularly (whether you have a student at home or not). We need to be more in tune with the Word of God now, not less!
- **Time to Think about the Kids of FBC.** April Matthews took on the challenge of sharing our needs in Children's Sunday School and Children's Church. I pray that you were listening. Those are our *current* needs. Everyone is rightly thrilled about the number of kids on our campus on Sundays, but that comes with a responsibility. We must do **everything we can** to make their experience here irreplaceable. That's going to demand more help in the future, not less. Will you help our children's leaders make a difference in the lives of those kids?

August Is for Getting Settled; Big Things Are Coming

You might look at the August calendar and think that there's not a lot going on. That's kind of true, but it's absolutely by design. We have a lot of students and teachers in our congregation, and the start of the school year demands a great deal of time and energy on their part; we don't want to overwhelm them with church events at the same time. Further, this is the start of the "schoolyear schedule" for our church ministries, like TeamKid and Elevate. We want to demonstrate their priority by letting them get their footing without a lot of competition.

Things will start to heat up in the fall, so to speak (and goodness, the temperatures had better start cooling off). We have a very cool Big Breakfast coming up in September that we will share more about in next month's newsletter, we're making some changes to our Fall Festival that we're very excited about, and there are several events on the near horizon that we will need your help with. So, don't think of August as a lull — think of it as a necessary time to catch our breath and start this year off on the right foot.

We hope you will be a part of it!



Rev. Ben Tarver

The beginning of the school year is almost here! Kickoff Night for TinyKid, TeamKid, and Elevate (Youth) will be Wednesday, August 10, 6:00-7:15 PM. We will have an awesome time with youth and children! Parents and grandparents, I highly encourage you to also plug in and be involved with the study for adults in the Fellowship Hall.

The youth had a great time at Look Up Lodge in Travelers Rest, SC for summer camp, July 10-15. It was a new camp for our church, but the beautiful camp at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains has been ministering since the 1960's. Our youth got to worship, have recreational challenges, small group studies, and free time at the lake waterfront with over 300 youth. The teaching was amazing and gave a full gospel picture of what it means to abide in Jesus and live for him daily. The youth also went over how to share the gospel. The camp staffers did an amazing job sharing their testimonies and spending time with our youth.

The Labor Day weekend ministry and mission trip in partnership with SMRM (Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries) in Gatlinburg is coming up September 2-5. Our group stays in the wonderful SMRM house with an overlook of the Smoky Mountains. We will do campground worship services and invite guests and locals out to worship. The worship services are student led. This trip is open to high school students, college students, and adult volunteers. There is an application that will be going out in August. There is no cost except for one meal in Gatlinburg, spending money for free time, and a suggested donation of \$25 to SMRM. This is one of our major trips for our youth and I would like for all of our high school youth to consider going!

Finally, our church has another incredible opportunity to minister to and appreciate foster care families and children at a OneDay, FunDay event on Saturday, September 24, at our church park. We are inviting foster families in surrounding counties to come out to a day full of fun. First, we need prayer for this event, that we show the love of Jesus to these families! Second, we need willing and committed volunteers to help at various stations and to genuinely show a smile and the love of Jesus! We are hosting the event for our sponsor, the Georgia Baptist Mission Board, so we want to leave a good impression of our church. Contact the office or any staff if you are willing to serve for this special event

Ben

Last Month

We Came	Morning Worship	Sunday School	Wednesday	We Gave
June 26	232	189	N/A	\$11,338.00
July 3	267	138	N/A	\$17,352.00
July 10	314	180	N/A	\$12,284.00
July 17	296	181	30	\$23,136.38
July 24	299	163	54	\$10,497.00
BUDGET		NON-BUDGET		
Required	\$443,410.02	Cap. Improvements		\$10,899.00
Received	\$412,054.64	Ferguson Property		\$2,635.00
Disbursed	\$402,887.97	Go & Tell Mission Fund		\$17,951.00

**End-of-June
Final
Finances**

Lord's Supper Sunday, August 21



\$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*

August 3
Pork Chops
August 10
Baked Potato Bar
August 17
Hobo Meal
August 24
Poppyseed Chicken
August 31
Baked Spaghetti

NEXT STEPS luncheon

Are you new to First Baptist?
Did you recently join?
We would love for you to come find
out more about our church at the
Next Steps Luncheon immediately
following Worship on August 28!



**Join us Wednesday
Nights beginning
August 17 at 6 PM
as we study
"The Bible in Its
World"**

Deacon Nomination Sunday, August 7



Be in prayer for students and
teachers who are going back to
school this month!



The Bloodmobile will
be at our church
Thursday, August 18
from 1-6 PM.



August Ministry Donation

Pop-top Canned Meals
(Spaghetti-O's,
Vienna Sausages, Etc.)



August

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

Sunday, August 7

9:30 AM Promotion Sunday
 10:45 AM Deacon Nominations
 Bibles Presented to First Graders
 12:00 PM Pizza with the Pastors

Monday, August 8

6:00 PM Property and Space Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 9

6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting
 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, August 10

6:00 PM Fall Kick-Off Night for Kids and Youth

Monday, August 15

7:00 PM Deacon Orientation

Wednesday, August 17

6:00 PM **Disciple's Pathway Fall Kick-Off**

Thursday, August 18

1-6 PM Bloodmobile

Sunday, August 21

10:45 AM **Lord's Supper Service**

Sunday, August 28

12:00 PM Next Steps Luncheon