



THE CORNERSTONE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH THOMSON

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

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No. 11

NOVEMBER

Happy Thanksgiving



10th ANNIVERSARY Celebration

Join us as we celebrate
David's 10th Anniversary as Lead Pastor.
November 6
10:45 AM Worship
Lunch to Follow

Georgia Baptist Convention

200th Anniversary
November 13-15

Warren Baptist Church
Augusta



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
ENDS

November 6

Dr. David Lambert, Lead Pastor

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." (1 Chronicles 16:34)

While Americans set aside one day a year to give thanks, for God's people expressing gratitude is an important spiritual discipline. There are 138 passages of Scripture that deal with being thankful and giving thanks. There are even more that speak of the many gifts, blessings, and provisions our Lord supplies. I pray all this month you'll join me in opening our eyes to see God's blessings all around us.

We much to give thanks for the good things God did in our church in October: a beautiful day at the Camelia City Festival and the opportunities our people had to interact with children and families, the 72 Christmas Backpacks for children in need that we filled up with goodies and necessities, and the new families who have joined our church.

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." (2 Corinthians 9:11)

November gives us even more opportunities to worship, serve, grow, and share the Gospel with others...together! We have the chance this month to be generous so that others can give thanks to God. Through Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes we can share God's love with the nations, and through the Angel Tree gifts for foster care children we can share God's love with our neighbors. Let's outdo ourselves in generosity to those near and far who need Jesus!

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:15)

This month we will gather as one with our sister Georgia Baptist churches to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Georgia Baptist Convention! The convention will be held November 13-15 at Warren Baptist Church, beginning that Sunday night with a commissioning of International Mission Board missionaries. I hope you'll be able to attend at least some of the convention and experience dynamic worship, biblical preaching, and learn more about your Georgia Baptist Mission Board. I am also humbled at the opportunity to serve as one of the Vice Presidents for the GBC for 2022-2023. I am grateful to have been asked and am especially honored that Rev. David Miller will be making my nomination. I look forward to representing FBC Thomson well in our state convention. While anyone can attend, our church is afforded **15 messengers** who can vote. We still have a few of those spots available, so contact the church office if you want to attend as a messenger from our church.

As a church body, we also can hear about next year's proposed budget on November 20 with a soup and sandwich supper at 5:30, followed by the budget presentation. Bring your favorite soup, a tray of sandwiches, or dessert and join us! We will discuss the proposed budget and answer any questions. The vote will be held on November 27 following worship.

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." (Colossians 4:2)

Finally, we begin our celebration of Advent with our first Advent service on Sunday morning November 27. That will be our annual Hanging of the Green service. And don't forget to pick up your 2022 Advent Devotional! And that evening at 6 PM, we will celebrate the birth of Jesus with others in our community through a Christmas concert by the newly revived Community Chorus. I'm excited about Advent 2023 and look forward to sharing more with you in next month's *Cornerstone*.

David

Dr. Matt Ward

First, The Bad News: No Fall Movie Night This Year

Due to scheduling conflicts and an extremely full calendar preventing rescheduling, we are not going to host a movie night this November. Even though we think that 2022 is unique in how the calendar has fallen (for example, the Georgia Baptist Convention is almost never held locally), we're still getting ahead of the next two years to keep our bigger events away from other things on the local calendar. More on that in January.

Second, The Good News: Christmas Concerts Galore!

I'll put more details in the next newsletter, but I want you to put these on your calendar now:

- Open the Christmas season with a gospel concert by the Mark Trammell Quartet and the Whisnants on **Saturday, Nov 26 at 6:00 PM** in our sanctuary. Always a great time.
- Welcome back the Community Christmas Chorus in a beautiful Christmas concert on **Sunday, Nov 27 at 5:00 PM** also in our sanctuary. We're not singing the full *Messiah* oratorio, but instead we're singing a wide range of choral classics.

Both concerts are free (love offerings will be taken at both), and these would be great opportunities to invite some friends to enjoy the musical meaning of Christmas.

Speaking of Which: Drive Through Nativity Construction!

Even though we've gotten this process down to a science, we need all hands on deck for our construction to go smoothly and quickly. Please set aside **Saturday, Nov 19 at 8:00 AM** to help us set up the sets for our Nativity. You do not have to have experience or skill to be extremely helpful. It would be great if you brought a pair of gloves, though (and maybe a truck)! If we all get to work, we can have the whole project done in time for a late lunch.

And I can't remind enough — this year, the Nativity will start on a **Sunday** (Dec 4) and run through **Tuesday**. This is even more all-hands-on-deck than the construction, so please volunteer to help us whenever you can (contact paige-boutwell@gmail.com).

And Sanctuary Christmas Decorating on Friday, Nov 25

The weekend after Thanksgiving is always a big one for our church. This year it's going to be even bigger — *two* concerts, and our Hanging of the Green service. That means we want our sanctuary to be as beautiful as ever. We need your help. Please set aside the morning after Thanksgiving to help us decorate our building. This includes hanging garland, putting up and decorating the Christmas tree, and handing the wreaths. With enough help, it can all be done in the morning, **Friday, Nov 25 at 9:00 AM**.

Lottie Moon Night on Wednesday, Nov 30

And finally, please plan to attend our special Lottie Moon night on November 30. A great Thanksgiving-style meal at 5:00, and a missions-focused presentation at 6:00, including a "desserts from around the world" fundraiser and the priceless **TinyKid Living Nativity!**



Rev. Ben Tarver

Angel Tree is a foster care ministry our church does every year in partnership with the McDuffie Georgia Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS). Foster care families are currently working on getting Christmas wish lists from children in our area. The Angel Tree will be up early next month, and names can be selected on Sunday, November 13. This is a perfect ministry for a Sunday School class, your workplace or a couple families to work together and complete a list for a child! Angel Tree truly makes a difference! I know these children will be blessed and filled with joy when they receive their gifts this year!

Upward Basketball registration is currently open! Stop by the church office to pay and fill out the registration form or go online <https://registration.upward.org/UPW82646>. Upward is for ages K/5 through 5th grade. Upward evaluations will be Monday, Nov 7 and Thursday, Nov 11, from 6:00-8:15 PM. I could still use some helpers for the registration table, measuring the height of kids and to help count with simple drills. Thank you for your prayers and support of Upward and please spread the word to families with children!

The *Faith @ Home* center will have a family thankfulness prayer calendar with daily prompts. The prompts are centered on scripture prompts, attributes of God, our local church ministries, and the community. This is a great way to be intentional to have prayers of thankfulness throughout the month, and not centered on only one day. Take it, use it, and share it with others.

CentriKid is a high-energy, intentional, gospel-centered overnight camp for rising 2nd graders through rising 7th graders. Their mission is to help kids experience the time of their lives and learn more about the message of Jesus Christ. This takes place through track times, rec, worship, Bible study, church group time, and a variety of other fun events. CentriKid Camps are committed to providing content that is rooted in Scripture, a safe location, kid-friendly programming, and staffers who are deeply invested in your kids. Sign up your kids today! Contact the church office or Lindsay Dunn to sign up. A \$75 non-refundable deposit is due by January 31, 2023.

I am thankful for you all – my FBC church family that love and support me, the youth, and the Tarver tribe.

Ben

Last Month

We Came	Morning Worship	Sunday School	Wednesday	We Gave
September 25	245	191	98	\$14,224.00
October 2	318	191	101	\$23,267.01
October 9	267	194	95	\$16,141.00
October 16	535	182	92	\$16,769.00
October 23	304	200	83	\$11,588.00

End-of-September Final Finances

BUDGET		NON-BUDGET	
Required	\$665,115.03	Cap. Improvements	\$17,649.00
Received	\$636,707.52	Ferguson Property	\$4,535.00
Disbursed	\$607,886.92	Go & Tell Mission Fund	\$25,915.00



Budget Presentation and Dinner

Sunday, November 20
5:30 PM

Nursery will be provided.

\$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

November 2

Baked Spaghetti

November 9

Taco Bar

November 16

Soup and Sandwiches

November 23

No Evening Activities

November 30

Poppyseed Chicken

(Dessert Sampling for Lottie Moon)



Advent Devotions will be available
Sunday, November 20

Foster Care Angel Tree



Tree will be up
Sunday,
November
13

Gifts due back
December 4



Open to kids grades K5-5.

Cost: \$70 after October 28

Optional Shorts \$15

Registration deadline is
November 10

Evaluations: November 7&10



Mark Trammell and The Whisnants
in concert
Saturday, November 26
6:00 PM



November Ministry Donation



Cranberry Sauce for Manna

November

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, November 6

Daylight Savings Time Ends

10:45 AM Worship, All Saints Sunday

12:00 PM Anniversary Lunch for David

Monday, November 7

6:00 PM Upward Evaluations

6:00 PM Property and Space Committee Meeting

7:00 PM Community Choir Practice

Tuesday, November 8

Election Day

11:00 AM Young At Heart

6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting

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

Thursday, November 10

6:00 PM Upward Evaluations

Sunday, November 13

10:45 AM Worship, Veterans Day and OCC Collection Day

Foster Care Angel Tree Up

November 13-15

Georgia Baptist Convention, Warren Baptist

November 13-20

OCC Collection Week

Monday, November 14

7:00 PM Community Choir Practice

Saturday, November 19

8:00 AM Drive Thru Nativity Construction

Sunday, November 20

Advent Devotions Available

5:30 PM Dinner and Budget Presentation

Monday, November 21

7:00 PM Community Choir Practice

Wednesday, November 23

No Wednesday Night Activities

November 24-25

Church Office Closed

Friday, November 25

9:00 AM Christmas Decorating at Church

Saturday, November 26

6:00 PM Mark Trammell and the Whisnants

Sunday, November 27

Advent Begins

10:45 AM Worship, Hanging of the Green and Budget Vote

5:00 PM Community Choir Concert

Wednesday, November 30

5:00 PM Dinner

6:00 PM Missions Night with Tiny Kid Nativity and Dessert Auction