



THE CORNERSTONE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH **THOMSON**

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

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AUGUST

August 6

Promotion Sunday

Bibles Presented to
First Graders in Worship

Deacon Nominations

Pizza with the Pastors

August 9

Wednesday Night Kick-Off
For Kids and Youth

TinyKid Age 3-K5

TeamKid 1-6 Grade

Elevate 7-12 Grade

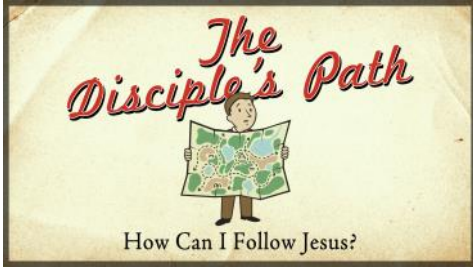


AUGUST 27

Dr. David Lambert, Lead Pastor

We just finished Christmas in July with OCC Shoeboxes, which only helps me feel like August is the beginning of a new year! I've always felt like "back to school" was a second New Years. August gives us a fresh new beginning for several of our programs and ministries after a summer break and with our folks back in the swing of things after summer vacations.

A new school year and a new season of ministry is a great time to refresh ourselves on our church's discipleship strategy with a **new sermon series**. Our church's missional mandate for "loving God, loving people, and making disciples of Jesus from all generations" is accomplished through our missional map, or what we call *The Disciple's Path*: Come to Worship, Grow in Groups, Serve in Love, and Go & Tell. Join us beginning August 6 for this journey of discovering what each of these means and how they help us as a church to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.



For those who are new to the FBC Thomson family, either as new members or as someone interested in becoming part of our church family, these messages will be a helpful exploration of who we are as a church. Then, on **August 27**, you can discover more about our church and how to become a member at our **Next Steps Luncheon** after worship. We will provide a free lunch for you and your family and offer childcare as we spend time exploring more about our church and how you can find your place of service here. Please contact the church office and let us know if you are planning to attend.

August 6 will be a big day here at FBC Thomson! In addition to beginning our new sermon series, we will have the joy of presenting Bibles to our rising 1st graders, all children and youth will be promoted to their new Sunday School classes, and all children and their families are invited to stay for a Pizza with the Pastors lunch in the Fellowship Hall. But we will also have the sacred privilege and duty to nominate men to serve in our **Deacon Ministry** for a three-year term. All members of the church should have received a packet in the mail about our deacon selection process and a list of men (resident members, 25 years of age and older, who have been members of the church at least two years) to pray through and use to guide you in who you feel led to nominate on August 6. Our Deacon Ministry is a vital part of how we love one another as a church family as they lead our church through their example of service, worship, and prayer. Please make this a priority in your prayers as we nominate these men, as they prayerfully decide whether to keep their name on the selection ballot and as we finalize that selection process on September 10.

Finally, let me encourage you to use this "second New Year" as a chance to renew your commitment to Sunday School, corporate worship, your financial stewardship to God, AND joining us on **Wednesday nights** for fellowship supper and truly wonderful programs for all ages. Our TinyKID and TeamKID ministries for children, Elevate at the Warehouse for youth, and The Disciple's Pathway study for adults in the Fellowship Hall are second-to-none. I'm especially excited to begin a new study on the books of the Bible I'm calling **"Route 66: A Road Trip through the Bible."** Although it will be a lengthy study through the Bible, each week will be like a stand-alone lesson. So don't feel stressed if you miss a week or two, or if you want to jump in later on. Each week will have value by itself. But I do hope to see you every Wednesday night!

Glad to be your Pastor!

David

Dr. Matt Ward

Back to School, Back to Good Habits

If you're like the rest of us, summer is a mishmash of events and schedules, and there might be more weekend travel than usual. August is time to set that aside and get back into the regular rhythm of Sunday worship and rest. And don't just do this because you want your kids in Sunday School—you also need to spend time with God's people in God's word and worship. See you Sunday!

Training Opportunity — Spark Conference

I'm spreading this word every way I know how. Georgia Baptists put on regular training conferences for church leaders, and this year there are two near us:

- 8/26 in Athens from 8:30-12:30
- 8/27 in Sandersville from 4:30-8:30

The cost is \$15 (which includes a meal). Here are some of the breakout sessions they are offering: reaching college-age/teens/children, leading men's ministry/women's ministry, leading a Bible study, how do to cross-cultural missions, and much more!

If you are at all interested in attending either of these, please let me know. If there are enough of us, we can take a bus and make it that much easier.

Outreach Opportunity — "Food Truck Friday" 8/18

The Chamber of Commerce is trying to connect our community, and one idea they had was "Food Truck Friday". It is what you think it is, and they asked us to host the first one. We will gladly do that, and we are looking at this as an outreach opportunity. We will have Christian music playing and Bibles to give away. If you can, come and help us be good hosts for this community event.

New Wednesday Night Bible Study — You Want to Attend!

I know that David will be sharing this, but I want to put in my own plug. He's going to be leading a series through the **entire** Bible, but in a way that's really fresh. He will be taking on **one book of the Bible** each Wednesday night. Yes, it will take a while, but here's what I like about that approach:

- It's just the big picture. Every book of the Bible fills an important space in the story of salvation, and this study will ensure that you can't get lost in the weeds.
- It's self-contained. If you miss a Wednesday night, you can jump back in the next week. David will treat each book as standalone (explaining how they fit together).

This is a great opportunity to learn God's Word in a fresh way.

Preschool Is Starting Soon

Our Cornerstone Preschool doesn't start until September, so August is their month to prepare. We want to pray for them and commission them, and we realized that's the best opportunity to take up a love offering for them. So, we've chosen **Sunday, August 27**. They already have more kids enrolled than last year, and we want to pray and support them through any growing pains.



Rev. Ben Tarver

This summer the children and youth had amazing camp experiences! The kids went to *Centrikid* at Brewton-Parker College and the youth went to *Look Up Lodge* in Travelers Rest, SC. Thank you for your support and prayers for all! Both of these camps were wonderful. I truly appreciate all of our chaperones who helped with these camps!

Pizza with the Pastors is coming Sunday, August 6, after morning worship in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a fun-filled time of pizza and games between the children and pastors. All families with children (1st-6th grade and siblings) are welcome. There will be an extra prize for the children that attended at least 6 of 10 Sunday morning worship services this summer!

First Baptist Church is partnering with Thomson High School FCA and *The Old Frontier* ministry for a *FREE Summer Bash* event for McDuffie County teens on Saturday, August 12, from 5-8:00 PM. There will be a giant waterslide, basketball, kickball, and other games at *The Old Frontier*. Dinner is provided. We will have a time of worship music and will hear from Coach Bernard Grant. First Baptist youth will meet at 4:30 PM at the Warehouse to take a bus. Join us and invite your friends!

Be in prayer for the upcoming mission trip to Gatlinburg to assist *Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries* in reaching campgrounds for Sunday worship over the Labor Day weekend, September 2-4. This trip is open to our high school and college students. It is always an amazing opportunity to grow closer as a group and to the Lord as we serve in the beautiful mountains!

Ben

Last Month

We Came	Morning Worship (in person)	Morning Worship (online)	Sunday School	We Gave
June 25	229	255	192	\$9,104.00
July 2	256	234	191	\$24,995.00
July 9	274	219	222	\$20,869.00
July 16	276	169	204	\$15,345.00
July 23	221	268	209	\$21,050.00
BUDGET		NON-BUDGET		
Required	\$460,628.52	Cap. Improvements	\$11,848.62	
Received	\$426,852.62	Ferguson Property	\$2,930.00	
Disbursed	\$425,984.66	Go & Tell Mission Fund	\$21,556.73	

End-of-June Final Finances

LORD'S SUPPER

August 20

A benevolence offering will be received.



\$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 2

Poppyseed Chicken

August 9

Salad Bar

August 16

Meatloaf

August 23

Porkchops

August 30

Chicken Salad and Pimento Cheese

Deacon Nomination Sunday, August 6



Join Pastor David on Wednesdays beginning August 9 as he leads us on a road trip through the Bible! A different book of the Bible will be covered each week. We will learn the themes, authors, and personal application for each book!

BACK TO SCHOOL

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

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 27!

On Sunday, August 27, we will have a time of prayer and receive a love offering for our preschool as they prepare to begin another year.



Cornerstone
Preschool

AUGUST MINISTRY



Backpacks for Appalachia.
Backpacks can be any size/gender.
Please include 3-4 pop-top canned meals with each backpack.

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)
 2:00 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
 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)

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, August 5

10:30 AM Basket Packing Party

Sunday, August 6

Promotion Sunday

Bibles for First Graders in Worship

Deacon Nomination

12:00 PM Pizza with the Pastors

Tuesday, August 8

6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting

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

Wednesday, August 9

6:00 PM Fall Wednesday Night Kick-off

Monday, August 14

7:00 PM Deacon Orientation

Sunday, August 20

Lord's Supper in Worship

Sunday, August 27

12:00 PM Next Steps Luncheon

4:30 PM Spark Conference in Sandersville, GA
 (\$15/pp; See Matt for details)

Thursday, August 31

6:00 PM Cornerstone Preschool Open House