



THE CORNERSTONE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH THOMSON

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

PHONE: (706) 595-4252

WEB: www.fbcthomson.org

Vol. 61

September 2025

No.9

SEPTEMBER

Through the 2025 Georgia Baptist State Missions Offering, you are mobilizing Mission Georgia and equipping churches to:

MISSIONS IN MOTION

2025 GEORGIA BAPTIST STATE
MISSIONS OFFERING EMPHASIS

MISSION GEORGIA
MISSIONGEORGIA.ORG

- Serve communities through literacy programs
- Offer care through healthcare partnerships
- Strengthen families through foster care and adoption support
- Respond to natural disasters and urgent times of need
- Support those on the path to addiction recovery
- And so much more!

Church Emphasis Dates: September 7-14

Our 2024 Church Offering Goal: \$6,000



Sunday School BIG BREAKFAST

September 7, 9:00 AM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

11 AM-2 PM

FALL FESTIVAL

FEATURING BOUNCE HOUSES, FACE PAINTING, PONY RIDES, HAYRIDES, FOOD TRUCKS AND MORE!

ALL FREE EXCEPT THE FOOD TRUCKS

Deacon Nominees

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| • Matt Chester | • Jason Knight | • Bill Reese |
| • Wint Cook | • Bob Lemley | • John Richards |
| • Jackson Douglas | • Randy Pilgrim | • David Russell |
| • Andrew Harding | • Cliff Poston | • Bryan Youngs |
| • Trevor Johnson | | |

Dr. David Lambert, Lead Pastor

As we move into September, I'm grateful for the many ways God is at work in our church family. Let me share a few important updates and upcoming opportunities.

Church Directory Update—Work is already underway on updating our church directory! We are currently incorporating the beautiful photos that Maggie Allen took on Mother's Day. If an updated picture is needed for your family, Christy will be reaching out to you directly. In the next couple of weeks, you'll also notice a section on the Connect Card where you can let us know what information you would like included in the directory—such as home phone, cell phone, email address, mailing address, etc. Your input will help us ensure the directory is accurate, helpful, and a great resource for our church family.

Deacon Selection— At the conclusion of worship on Sunday, September 7, our church will prayerfully select new deacons to serve our congregation. The names of the men on the front of the Cornerstone have agreed to serve if chosen. We will be selecting 9 men, 8 will serve a 3 year term and the 9th will fulfill the final year of Coach Paul Leroy's unfulfilled term. Please continue to lift up this process in prayer, asking God to guide our hearts as we affirm those who will serve.

Committee Budget Workshop—All committees and ministry teams responsible for budgeted ministries are reminded of the Committee Budget Workshop on Sunday, September 21 at 5 PM. Ministry leaders and committee chairs should have already received budget request packets. This is an important step in planning well for the year ahead.

Mission Georgia Offering—From September 7–14, we will join with churches across Georgia for the Mission Georgia Week of Prayer and Offering. This year's theme is "Missions In Motion." Our church's offering goal is \$6,000. These gifts directly support gospel-centered ministries across our state, such as foster care, human trafficking rescue, literacy missions, refugees, and more. You can learn more about the theme and ministries supported by visiting missiongeorgia.org/offering. Please begin praying now about how God would have you give.

For All Generations Campaign—Finally, I want to share an encouraging update on our *For All Generations* campaign. We are over one-third of the way to our goal, while only six months into this three-year journey. We are far ahead of expectations! Several people and families have already completed their commitments—and some have even exceeded them. I want to encourage everyone to remain faithful in fulfilling what you have committed to the church. For those who have not yet begun giving toward your commitment, now is the perfect time to start. And for new members or those who didn't make a commitment earlier—it's not too late! Commitment cards are available in the Sanctuary every Sunday and in the Atrium during the week.

When will we see work begin? The architects are still working on the drawings we need, but we are hopeful to receive those soon and begin making decisions on which areas of renovation will happen first. Thank you for your continued prayers and generosity as we invest in ministry spaces that will serve our church for all generations.

David

Dr. Matt Ward

Sunday School Weekend—September 6 and 7!

It is now a tradition that the weekend after Labor Day is Sunday School Weekend:

- Leadership Training on Saturday, 9/6, 10:00-12:00
- “Big Breakfast” on Sunday, 9/7, 9:00-10:30

Our leadership training is for everyone in any kind of leadership role in any of our Sunday School classes. It will be interesting, encouraging, (and I promise to follow the schedule).

“Big Breakfast” is for everybody. Food is available starting at **9:00 in the Fellowship Hall**. At 9:30, we will have a short all-Sunday School celebration (the kids need to stay for this because they’re going to present their Sunday School mission project!). And whenever that’s done (~9:45), we will dismiss all of the kids classes to their regular Sunday School rooms.

The adult classes are requested to stay in the Fellowship Hall for a very important large-group time. We’re going to talk about the year that was, we’re going to pray for the year that is, and we’re going to do something we need to do every so many years — talk about our emergency response policies (what we do in case of a tornado, what we do in case of a fire, etc.). We have a lot of new families with a lot of kids, and you need to know what our plans are if an emergency happens (and of course we pray that such emergencies won’t happen!).

It’s a full morning; it’s an important morning. I hope you’ll be here!

Fall Festival—September 20!

I love the Fall Festival. It’s always such a great time, and now that we’ve moved it a month earlier, it helps us kick off the welcome change in season. You are invited, and we want you to invite your friends and neighbors. We also want you to sign up to help!

- Bounce houses and hayride
- Petting farm and pony rides
- Facepainting and games
- **Lots of food trucks**
- Gospel presentation

Everything is free except for the food. Come, bring your families, and spend some time with our neighbors here in Thomson!

Fall Festival

Saturday, September 20, 11:00-2:00

Serve Day—October 4

We are still growing this ministry and adding different kinds of projects to encourage participation. This year, in addition to the yard cleanup, we are doing an “indoor project” — decorating treats for our community helpers (as the preschool calls them): police, fire, and more. This means that we will need some church members to volunteer to bake some cookies and cupcakes before that Saturday, and other church members to come on Saturday, decorate them, and deliver them to our community helpers. We will be doing signups for this in mid-September, and I hope you’ll clear off that Saturday morning to help us be a blessing to members of our community.



Rev. Ben Tarver

We have a lot happening in our children and youth ministries, and I want to highlight a few exciting things coming up!

Spaghetti Dinner & Dessert Auction – Sunday, October 5

Join us immediately after church for a great time of fellowship and delicious food. This meal and dessert auction will help offset costs for our children and youth camps, so come hungry and ready to bid on some amazing home-made desserts!

Children’s Ministry Volunteers Needed— We have been blessed with growing numbers in Sunday School, Children’s Church, and Wednesday night programs. I’m so thankful for our faithful volunteers! Right now, we especially need **another adult presence upstairs in Children’s Sunday School**—our lead teachers are covered, but we could use more assistants to help with safety, crowd control, and encouragement. Men, we’d love to have you involved too! If you feel led to help, please see me.

Youth Mission Trip – Labor Day Weekend—Our youth will once again travel to Gatlinburg to partner with Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries. They will help lead worship at local campgrounds, hand out donuts and devotionals at Ober Mountain Ski Lodge, and assist with projects at the ministry house. This trip not only gives our youth a chance to share the gospel with international workers but also continues a partnership spanning over 40 years. We are grateful for SMRM and the opportunity to serve in the beautiful Smoky Mountains.

Upward Basketball Registration—It’s hard to believe, but Upward Registration kicks off right after Labor Day Weekend! The **early bird price is \$65**, and our league is open to **K5–5th grade**. For more information, dates, and registration, please visit our church website or pick up an Upward flyer.


Thank you for praying, giving, and serving as we minister to children, youth, and beyond!

Ben

Last Month

We Came	Morning Worship (in person)	Morning Worship (online)	Sunday School	We Gave
August 3	293	170	254	\$19,013.25
August 10	295	171	223	\$20,164.69
August 17	328	84	274	\$24,969.82
August 24	324	175	251	\$14,110.00
BUDGET		NON-BUDGET RECEIPTS		
Required	\$561,061.69	Cap. Improvements	\$8,724.00	
Received	\$617,560.36	Vision Implementation	\$470,724.25	
Disbursed	\$542,930.07	Go & Tell Mission Fund	\$23,057.83	

**End-of-
July
Final
Finances**



Young @ Heart

**Tuesday, September 9
11:00 AM**

• Speaker: Dr. Mychelle Rhodes

RSVP By September 4 at Noon
• Cost is \$10.00



UPWARD

**Early Registration Begins
September 1**

Grades K-5

**\$65 before November 1
\$80 after November 1**

Visit Our Website to Sign Up

Ruth and Naomi's Tea
A sweet time of fellowship for widows.

**Monday, September 15
1:30 in the afternoon
FBC Thomson Parlor**

The tea is free but registration is required
Please call the church office
to register: 706-595-4252




**Committee
Budget
Workshop**

**September 21
5:00 PM**



**Senior Adult
Apple Trip**

**Thursday, October 2
7:30 AM-5:00 PM**

**RSVP by
Sunday, September 28**

FBC SERVE DAY

October 4
8:00 AM- 12:00 PM



Be watching for more details!

\$6.50 ADULTS - \$4.00 UNDER AGE 12
PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY NOON ON MONDAYS

Family Night Supper
Wednesdays at 5:00; Fellowship Hall

September 3
Pizza and Salad

September 10
Chicken Sandwiches & Fries

September 17
Salad Bar
Kids- Pizza Rolls

September 24
Hot Dogs/ Sausage Dogs

September Ministry

Fleece Blankets
for Women's
Shelter Baskets



Please place items 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)
1:30 Church Staff Meeting, 402
5:15 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
6:00 *Disciples Pathway* (Adults, Fellowship Hall)
Women's Study, Room 410
Men's Study, Parlor
Elevate (7-10 Grade), Warehouse
TeamKID (1-6 Grade), Gym
TinyKID (K4-K5), Chapel
TinyTots (2-3), Nursery
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)
5:15 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

September 1, 2025

Office Closed

September 6, 2025

10:00 AM Sunday School Leader Training

September 7-14

Week of Prayer for GA Missions

September 7, 2025

9:00 AM Sunday School Breakfast

Deacon Selection in Worship

3:00 PM Women's Ministry Team Meeting

September 8, 2025

6:00 PM Property and Space Committee Meeting

September 9, 2025

11:00 AM Young at Heart

6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting

7:00 PM Deacons Meeting

September 15, 2025

1:30 PM Ruth and Naomi's Tea

September 20, 2025

11:00 AM Fall Festival

September 21, 2025

5:00 PM Committee Budget Workshop

September 24, 2025

See You at the Pole