



THE CORNERSTONE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH THOMSON

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

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No.10

OCTOBER



Christmas Backpacks

*We need help with a few more items for our
Christmas Backpacks!*

*Please stop by the table in the atrium after
church or come by the church office!*

CORNERSTONE PRESCHOOL SUNDAY

OCTOBER 27



Registration Is Now Open!
Grades K-5

\$60 before November 1

\$75 after November 1

Visit Our Website to Sign Up

Dr. David Lambert, Lead Pastor

Happy Fall Ya'll! I love this time of year—the cooler, crisper air; fall flavors; FOOTBALL! And I love all that is happening in the life of our church during this time of year. October may seem like a bit of slow month (more so this year than usual) but trust me, it's anything but! There are lots of exciting things, changes, and preparations happening. I want to share just a few with you.

Financial Secretary's Office: As I mentioned last month, Mrs. Candy Beggs begins her work as our Church Financial Ministry Assistant. She brings such a wealth of experience and knowledge from serving two school systems as their finance director, and her knowledge of our church and her passion for God's work here are unparalleled! We couldn't be more excited. She continues to work part-time with Glascock County schools through the end of this school year, so she will be in the office here on Mondays and Tuesdays until then. In the interim, we are thankful for Mrs. Eunice Jones who will expand her time as our Choir Coordinator to work in the financial office Wednesday thru Friday, allowing her to both prep music for Sundays and handle financial matters during those days. Make sure you welcome them both to these new positions!

Quarterly Church Conference: At the October Conference on the 20th, we will hear a report from the Committee on Committees and act on approving those willing to serve three-year commitments on our important committees. We will also hear some initial recommendations from the new Campus Renewal Team to help start our project of renovating key spaces on our campus for current and future growth. Don't miss this QCC!

2025-2027 Deacons: We are thankful and excited for these men to begin their three-year service as active deacons come January: Doug Dent, John Dent, Jerry Dunn, Russell Gary, Daniel Hughes, Wayne Miller, Jay Mixon, and Cleve Poston. And I'm looking forward to our opportunity to ordain Mr. Jay as a deacon sometime later this fall. Join me in praying for their upcoming ministry.

Celebrating Spiritual Milestones: We continue to rejoice at people coming to faith in Jesus, uniting with our church, expressing their faith in Christ through baptism, births and child-family dedications, and so much more! October gives us opportunities for family dedications, as I write this we're preparing for a baptism Sunday—and I know we'll need another one coming up soon! Let's give thanks to God for His moving in people's lives and helping our church to grow and thrive as we carry out His kingdom work together! God is so good!

PRAY: I want to ask you to pray with your pastors and leaders in our church as we prepare for the upcoming Advent and Christmas season—finalizing the Advent devotional, sermon and worship planning, Drive Thru Nativity work, and more! Pray for your Stewardship Committee as they are prayerfully working on the 2025 budget. This year will be one of the most challenging years for budget planning. Pray for people to continue to be generous and tithe and give beyond that for God's work through our church. September IS shaping up to be a great month in giving, and we are grateful for every dollar! Know that your staff, leaders, deacons, and Stewardship Committee strive to be excellent stewards of our resources, with transparency and accountability. If you ever have questions about finances, don't hesitate to ask!

David

Dr. Matt Ward

We Praise God for a Wonderful Fall Festival!

Let's go ahead and acknowledge that it was hot on Saturday. (Not as hot as the folks had it at Arts in the Heart, and we didn't have a hurricane, so that's something.) But setting that aside, it was a wonderful day. It was an honor to have 88.3 with us, and they said very nice things about the event, the turnout, and the interaction they had with our guests. Our prayer tent was able to encourage the people who acknowledged they were standing in the need of



prayer. Something like half of the kids in McDuffie County had their faces painted. And our children's Sunday School teachers fearlessly endured the sun to help those kids have a great time. Of course, it's no surprise that the tree attracted a bigger crowd than usual.

I want to say a huge thank you to our church members who made this event possible. From the planning to the setup to the operation, so much work happened. (I'm just going to start calling our volunteers the Iron Men and Women.) And I want to say an even bigger thank you to those of you who invited your friends and neighbors — I pray that this event helps you encourage them to try a Sunday morning at First Baptist.

October Is Not as Slow as You Think Around Here

I was so thankful to see that we have a slight lull in the event calendar this month. Why? Two reasons: budget season, and Sharon's retirement. You have heard that both Candy and Eunice will be covering different parts of Sharon's job for the near future. You have also surmised that this will be a more involved budget-planning cycle than years past. Fewer events means that I will have more time and energy to help them start their course well (in any way that I can). Please be patient with us in the short term; Sharon leaves some big shoes to fill.

Update on "I Was Broke; Now I'm Not" in Sunday School

We had a great first session; the content of the course is very interesting, practical, and grounding. A reminder that for the rest of these sessions (they run through the month of October), we will start at the normal Sunday School time of 9:30.

Two things: (1) if you haven't signed up or missed the first session and you realized that you want to participate, it's not too late! Our kits come with video access to the course for 90 days, so you can catch up on your schedule. And (2) if you're having any trouble navigating their website (it's got a lot of stuff on it), please let us know, and we can try to help you. In my experience, their support has been pretty quick. And don't forget to check your spam folder! They send messages from fully-funded.life as well as iwasbrokenowimnot.com.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Ward".

Rev. Ben Tarver

I was so encouraged to help with **See You at the Pole** at both Thomson High School and Thomson-McDuffie Middle School recently. It's easy to think that today's younger generation isn't stepping out in faith, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Each school had over 60 students, teachers, faculty, and coaches join the FCA student leaders for prayer on Wednesday, September 25. We gathered as a large group and then broke into smaller groups to pray together.

Our students today face a lot more than many of us did at their age, so let's continue to pray for our schools and community. Be encouraged—there are incredible students and teachers who share their faith weekly and invite others to join. I'm honored to be part of their lives, contributing to those prayers and conversations.

On a different note, I'm **extremely excited** about our very first **5th Sunday evening worship for children!** I'm so proud of our college class leaders for making this happen and giving the younger kids a chance to experience a worship service just for them. Gabbie Duvall will lead the music, and Jay Mixon will share a short devotion. It's going to be a fun event, and a great opportunity for the children to learn and grow as they worship together in a meaningful but engaging way. We'll gather at The Warehouse, and, weather permitting, we'll end the night with s'mores in the church park.

A big thank you to everyone who helped with our **Fall Festival!** Despite the summer-like heat that showed up with the start of fall, families had an amazing time. It was a fantastic turnout, and we couldn't have done it without the hard work of those who set up, worked during, and cleaned up afterward.

Youth, stay tuned for some **fun events in October**, including a Progressive Meal and Sunday Afternoon Disc Golf outings! I'm really looking forward to the cooler weather and the chance to enjoy some outdoor activities together.

Ben

Last Month

We Came	Morning Worship (in person)	Morning Worship (online)	Sunday School	We Gave
September 1	225	172	235	\$17,717.00
September 8	318	193	221	\$18,708.00
September 15	271	155	236	\$12,998.01
September 22	288	148	257	\$24,659.00

BUDGET

Required	\$635,544.64
Received	\$549,109.37
Disbursed	\$595,550.82

NON-BUDGET RECEIPTS

Cap. Improvements	\$11,110.00
Vision Implementation	\$20,608.23
Go & Tell Mission Fund	\$24,479.56

End-of-August Final Finances

FBC SERVE DAY

November 2
9:00 AM- 12:00 PM



Be watching for more details!



**Quarterly
Church Conference**
October 20, 2023

**KILPATRICK BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION**

Annual Meeting

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29
6:00 PM**

MARSHALL BAPTIST CHURCH

**Young
Heart**

**Tuesday, October 8
11:00 AM**

Speaker: Dr. Mychele Rhodes

**RSVP By October 3 at Noon
Cost is \$10.00**

LORD'S SUPPER

October 20

A benevolence offering will be
received.



UPLUARD

Register Now



**\$60 before November 1
\$75 after November 1**

\$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

October 2:
Pork Chops
Kids: Chicken Strips
October 9:
Chef Salad
Kids: Uncrustables
October 16:
Chick-Fil-A
October 23:
Lasagna
October 30:
Hamburger Steaks

OCTOBER MINISTRY

Manna

**CRANBERRY SAUCE FOR
MANNA'S
THANKSGIVING BAGS**

OCTOBER

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

October 7, 2024

6:00 PM Preschool Committee Meeting
6:00 PM Property and Space Committee Meeting

October 8, 2024

11:00 AM Young at Heart
6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting
7:00 Deacons Meeting

October 20, 2024

10:45 AM Lord's Supper in Worship
6:00 PM Quarterly Church Conference

October 26, 2024

Camilla City Festival

October 27, 2024

Fall Preschool Sunday

October 29, 2024

6:00 PM KBA Annual Meeting at Marshall Baptist