

JUNE 1, 2023

First Baptist Church of Eatonton Messenger

FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST SHARING GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE WITH ALL



FROM THE PASTOR

Jesus asks, “**What are you looking for?**” When Jesus first meets a couple of John the Baptist’s disciples who begin to follow Jesus, Jesus first shows interest in them. Jesus asks them to articulate their hopes and dreams. He listens to them. He shows them kindness.

It seems to be a little disarming to the two disciples. They ask Jesus where he is staying. Maybe they don’t yet know if they can trust this new Messianic figure. Jesus is not put off by their inquiry. Nor does he respond with a bruised ego. Jesus simply welcomes them to “come and see.” And as they say, “Life was never the same again!”

Two thoughts come to my mind as I ponder this encounter. One is, “how do we greet people?” Do we illustrate a genuine interest, inviting people to open themselves to us? Are we welcoming? Do we inquire with love and compassion? God forbid someone feels more interrogated than anything else. So, I pray to be gracious and welcoming as we greet people, people we already know and people we don’t yet know.

The other thought is related to the fact Jesus asks about our hopes and dreams. Jesus wants to know what any of us are looking for. What a ponderous question! What are you looking for? Sometimes I think I know. Other times I think I have no idea.

I like John Dear’s thought everyone is really looking for much the same: “love, goodness, truth, peace, happiness, justice, mystery and joy. We are looking for meaning.” Of course, the trouble is while everyone may share a common end game, there is much disagreement over what leads to these things we are looking for.

I encourage you to take some time to ponder Jesus’ question this summer season. Take some time to examine what you choose to think leads to the things you are looking for. May God’s Spirit enlighten our journeys.

VBS is on the immediate horizon! Lots of good people have stepped up to make it happen **June 11-14!** Please do your part to encourage parents, grandparents and others to share their children for a week of fun filled learning and loving. May the love of Christ abound during the week amidst the activities. May children come to know of a God who deeply cares what they think, who they are and what they are looking for.

As the summer passes, enjoy the routine changes that occur for many. Bless the Lord for the gifts the summer brings to you! At the same time, continue to join the weekly worship we practice each Sunday. We trust one another to see to the church’s needs in this season even as we do in other seasons.

In the adapted words of the Apostle Paul, “May we long to see one another so that we may share with one another gifts and be strengthened; so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith.”

Grace and Peace,
Craig

YOUTH NEWS

Summer is here! We are looking forward to a great summer filled with fellowship, activities, and fun! Our Youth Ministry will continue to meet weekly on Wednesdays, with the exception of Holiday weeks. We have a Summer schedule filled with fun activities; such as a lock-in, bowling, trips, and more. This is always subject to change depending on numbers and participation. The Summer calendar is posted in the Church Newsletter, on Facebook, and the Church Website.

I am praying that our Summer discipleship opportunities will lead to some more consistent attendance in our Student Ministry. I ask you to join me in praying for all of our students to experience Christ, and the warm community and fellowship we have here at FBCE. I truly believe God has something amazing prepared for the future of our Student Ministry here.

Vacation Bible School is June 11-14 from 6PM to 8PM each evening. We are in need of some Youth volunteers to help us this year as group leaders, and to help with some activities. Please let Dylan or Cindy know ASAP if you or your student are willing and able to help.

Please continue watching Facebook, your email, and text messages for updates and reminders of things going on within our Student Ministry here at FBCE.

Dylan

UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES



YOUTH
MISSION & SERVICE DAY
JUNE 21

CONTACT DYLAN OR THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN UP!



YOUTH LOCK-IN

June 24 at 7:30 PM
Contact Dylan to Sign Up!



YOUTH BOWLING AND ARCADE TRIP
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

CONTACT DYLAN OR THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN UP



Youth Trip to
Stone Mountain

Sunday, July 2

Contact Dylan to sign up!

YOUTH SUMMER 2023 SCHEDULE

May 31	Movie & Game Night from 6 PM - 10 PM
June 11-14	Vacation Bible School from 6 PM - 8 PM
June 21	Missions Project
June 24	Lock-In @ the Church at 7:30 PM
June 28	Bowling & Arcade
July 2	Stone Mountain Laser Show
July 5	No Youth
July 12	Top Golf
July 19	No Youth
July 26	Water Park
July 30	End of Summer Party

DETAILS COMING SOON!
CONTACT DYLAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



“Spin the spinner, beat the clock, skip ahead, level up, and play to win! You’ll need to bring your A-game for this VBS.

Twists & Turns is a fantastical celebration of games of all kinds. From classic tabletop games to video games and more, kids will play their way through VBS while learning that Jesus guides them through all the twists and turns of their lives. They’ll find that even when they mess up it’s never “game over.”” - Lifeway



FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES THE GAME

**Join us for Vacation Bible School
June 11-14 from 6pm - 8pm
Dinner provided from 5:15pm - 6pm
Register online at
www.firstbaptistatonton.org/vbs
Contact Cindy Williams
for more information**



PRAYER NEEDS

Sympathy:

Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to Phyllis and Terry Blanton in the passing of Phyllis' mother Emily Ann (Cosby) Vaughn.

Our Members:

Tom Hicks
Brian Neukam
Scott Sharp
Janice Turner
Nell Wright
Unspoken

Friends and Family:

Nancy Banister
Jim Branam
Tommy Callaway
Mary Camp
Rick Cogdell
Quita Edwards
Karen Henry-Garrett
Joan Haws
Leo Jasinski
Everett Marsh
Red Marshall
Eleanor Moyer
David Ralston
Walt Rocker Jr.
Stephen Sharp
Mary Shurling
Linda Stowe
Leigh Ann Willis
Amanda Wooten
Johnny Wojtas

Assisted Living/Nursing & Homebound:

Mary Jo Balas
Maxine Godin
Luceil Harrison
Mary Ann Heath
Gaye Lankford
Hilda Marshall
Grace Resseau
Martha Strube
Sug Walton

Missionary Families:

Trey and Kaitlyn Lancaster in Gweru, Zimbabwe
Matt and Michelle Norman in Catalunya, Spain

ANNOUNCEMENTS



MAPPIN FUND

REQUESTS ARE BEING
ACCEPTED FOR THE MAPPIN
FUND SCHOLARSHIP.
THE DEADLINE IS JUNE 1

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR DETAILS.

CHURCH CONFERENCE



SUNDAY, JUNE 11
AT 10:50 AM
DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

There is a called church conference on Sunday, June 11. This year the church Constitution and Bylaw Team members are Edge Farley, Mike Faulk, Roger Vining, and Cary Walton. The team has completed a review and update of minor changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Eatonton. A vote to approve the revised document is scheduled for the June 11, 2023 church conference. Copies of the revised draft document are available in the church office for any member who wants to review the document prior to the June conference.

SSLC T-SHIRTS

NOW ON SALE

ITEM	PRICE
Adult SM-XL	\$25
2XL and up	\$27
Youth	\$20
Toddler	\$15



Stepping Stones Learning Center
115 N. Madison Ave.
Eatonton, GA 31024
706-485-0690

JUNE 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Mappin Fund Scholarship Application Due Stepping Stones Graduation	2	3
4 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship & Church Conference Vacation Bible School 6:00pm - 8:00pm	12 Vacation Bible School 6:00pm - 8:00pm	13 Vacation Bible School 6:00pm - 8:00pm	14 Vacation Bible School 6:00pm - 8:00pm	15	16	17
18 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship	19 Surge Music Camp	20 Surge Music Camp	21 Surge Music Camp Youth Mission Project & Service Day First Day of Summer	22 Surge Music Camp	23 Surge Music Camp	24 Surge Music Camp Youth Lock-In at the Church at 7:30pm
25 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship	26	27	28 Youth Bowling and Arcade Trip	29	30	

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

WELCOMING FOR JUNE

Randall McCook

USHERS FOR JUNE

Ennis Lankford

Don Baker

Tim Camp

Hollis Harrison

Mike Reagin

DEACON FOR JUNE 4

Jim Hall

DEACON FAMILIES

Chad Davis family

Jeff Davis family

Hilda Marshall

David Stickley family

Jimmy Williams

DEACON FOR JUNE 11

Pam Lancaster

DEACON FAMILIES

Jack Ferrell

Marvin Franklin family

Sheryl Hall

Scott Joris family

Steve Marshall

Pat McDade

BIRTHDAYS

06/01 - Lily Kate McElhenney

06/02 - Blake McDaniel

06/04 - George Dissmeyer

06/07 - Barry Chambers

06/08 - Barbara Giddens

06/10 - Harrison Harper

06/14 - Peggy McMillen

ANNIVERSARIES

06/02 - Mark and Joann Smith

06/07 - Tom and Mabel Hicks

06/09 - Don and Pat Turney

06/15 - Terry and Phyllis Blanton

06/15 - Victor and Kay Stevens

WORSHIP REPORT

Sunday, May 21 135

Sunday, May 28 111

FINANCIAL REPORT

MAY 21, 2023

Budget Needs \$10,392.26

Budget Receipts \$6,808.00

Budget Needs YTD \$218,335.46

Budget Receipts YTD \$204,012.90

First Baptist Church
P.O. Box 3400
Eatonton, GA 31024
Return Service Requested

STAY CONNECTED WITH US THIS SUMMER

THROUGH FACEBOOK,
MAILCHIMP, EMAILS,
TEXTS AND OUR WEBSITE



CALL THE OFFICE TO SIGN UP FOR THESE TODAY!