

MAY 7, 2026

First Baptist Church of Eatonton *Messenger*

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



FROM THE PASTOR

“Mother’s Day is complicated,” is one of the truer statements I’ve heard as I’ve preached this week in May for as long as I have. Mother’s Day is meant to be such a blessed thing, but gets complicated by human behaviors, unintended events, unplanned failures, human frailty, etc.

Mother’s Day is the day we commemorate the lives of women who are anointed with the special, mysterious something called “mothering.” Mothering has been described “as the nurturing, caring, and loving spirit of women who have molded and maintained our families and community.”

A very high view of Motherhood is further stated when it is said, “Mothering is not a biological thing, but a divine gift.” Many women have given birth to children, but they have never been “mothers” in the full sense of the word. Whereas, there have been women who have never borne children that have been mothers in the greatest sense of the word.

The old adage, “the hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world,” is a true one indeed, because it is often the hand of the mother that takes the characterless, shapeless, selfless lump of flesh called a human and molds it into a person, citizen, and legacy.

Mothering is a gift that is rarely convenient for the bearer of the gift; for the shoulders of a mother carries the burden of the nurture of the world. It is a costly venture for women to engage.

For the recipients it is absolutely necessary. Much like the empowering gifts of the sun, it is mothers among others who strategical-ly warms, sustains, and gives life. I’m so very grateful for the special women with whom I’ve been blessed to have my life mothered!

I am privilege to be able to say, “Before I knew God, I knew my mother.” I don’t mean to be trite, but to say I was blessed to know my mother and thus by transference to know God. She shared with me a tenacious, fierce love like unto that of a god. She believed in life and thus I did also. She was wise enough to let me believe on her coat tail as long as I could, but she also was wise enough to usher me into the possibility of my own beliefs and resulting behaviors. She was trusting enough to let me go forward into life as God leads me, even as she herself did.

Mama loved her husband, my daddy, and her children more than any single thing. I am so blessed to say, “as Christ loved the church, so Mama loved us.” Daddy did too, but this week is Mother’s day and he’d be the first one to shine the spotlight on Mama.

One of Mama’s strongest gifts was her passionate belief in her children. Her resources were limited, but they were focused with stubborn tenacity toward her children. I know what the song means, “red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight” because I first felt the passion of being precious in the sight of my mother. To think all children, myself included, are precious in the sight of God is still as natural to me as the blinking of my eyes.

Mama was the one who taught us, along with Daddy what had to be done and what couldn’t be done. She was as much a disciplinarian as Daddy, but she was also the one with the additional words of empathy, compassion and patience. Though sometimes guilty, her children were never incapable – according to Mama.

Such a special woman in my life, for which I am grateful and from which I have been blessed to grow.

*Thanks Mom,
Craig*

P.O. Box 3400

115 N. Madison Ave

706-485-3331

firstbaptisteatonton.org

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

FROM THE MINISTER OF MUSIC

Have you ever stopped to consider that music is not simply something we *do* in worship — it is someone we *proclaim*? The hymn "Jesus Is the Song" reminds us of a profound truth that we can sometimes overlook in the busyness of preparing anthems and selecting hymns: Jesus Himself is the source, the subject, and the substance of every song we sing. He is not merely the inspiration behind our music — He *is* the song itself.

As your Minister of Music, I am constantly reminded that our worship ministry is not ultimately about beautiful harmonies or perfectly executed arrangements. It is about pointing every heart in this congregation to the One who is worthy of all praise. The hymn calls us to recognize that Jesus is the song the whole world needs to hear — a song of hope for the hurting, of light for those walking in darkness, and of love that reaches further than we can imagine. When we gather on Sunday mornings and lift our voices together, we are not merely performing music — we are declaring His name to one another and to the world.

I want to encourage you this month to think about the song you carry within you throughout the week. When life grows heavy and the days feel long, there is a melody available to every believer that does not depend on circumstances or feelings. It is the song of grace, of redemption, of a Savior who never leaves our side. Jesus is that song — alive in our hearts, present in our praise, and worthy of every note we offer Him.

My prayer for our worship ministry — and for each of you — is that we never lose our wonder at the gift He has placed within us. May we sing it boldly, sing it humbly, and sing it well. And may everyone around us hear, through our lives and our lips, that Jesus is the song the whole world needs.

In His Service,

Dylan

UPCOMING SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS



National Day of
Prayer Gathering

May 7, 2026 at 6:00PM

Eatonton Courthouse Lawn

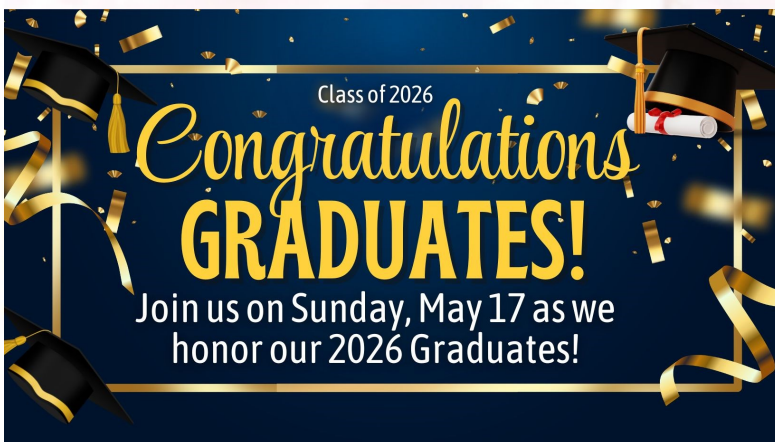


 **Wednesday** **CONNECT**
Connections **GROW**
SERVE

**OUR LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT
CONNECTIONS WILL BE MAY 13, 2026**

**WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR SUMMER BREAK
AND WE WILL SEE YOU IN THE FALL!**

THERE WILL NOT BE A WEDNESDAY BULLETIN THIS SUMMER - STAY INFORMED
WITH OUR SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH OUR ONLINE NEWSLETTER



Class of 2026

**Congratulations
GRADUATES!**

Join us on Sunday, May 17 as we
honor our 2026 Graduates!



COMMUNION
SERVICE

SUNDAY,
MAY 31
AT 10:50 AM



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

WELCOMING FOR MAY

Pat McDade

USHERS FOR MAY

Steven Benton, Head Usher

Randall McCook, Cooper Rainey, Charles Winslette

DEACON FOR MAY 10

Barry Chambers

DEACON FAMILIES

Dylan Bowden, Lisa Herndon,

Anne Marie Horton Family,

Leslie Peebles Family, Jean Rich,

Ronnie Williams Family, Sara Williams Family

DEACON FOR MAY 17

Chad Davis

DEACON FAMILIES

Pam Douglas, Charlotte Green,

Michael Reagin Family, James Ryan,

Sonny Turner Family

BIRTHDAYS

05/12 - Lois Schell

05/18 - Jan Long

05/21 - Patrice Underkofler

ANNIVERSARY

05/08 - George and Felice Dissmeyer

05/11 - Johnny and Kelli Phillips

05/16 - Tommy and Amy McElhenney

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Stew and Ashley Rich upon the birth of their son Luke Wesley Rich on April 20, 2026.

The proud grandparents are Tim and Kim Camp and Marshall and Patti Rich and the proud great-grandmother is Jo Ann Clay.

WORSHIP REPORT

Sunday, April 19 101

Sunday, April 26 86

Sunday, May 3 105

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FISH FRY



Wednesday, May 20 at 6:00PM

Call the church office to RSVP
by Wednesday, May 13



MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBERED AND HONORED

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 25.



JOIN US FOR

5th Sunday Lunch May 31

Following Morning Worship

The church will provide
the meat, tea, and bread.

Please bring casseroles,
vegetables, salads,
and dessert.



MAPPIN FUND

REQUESTS ARE BEING ACCEPTED
FOR THE MAPPIN FUND
SCHOLARSHIP.

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS JULY 1.

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

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
EATONTON
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**JUNE 7-10, 2026
5:30PM – 8:00PM
K3 - 5th Grade**

REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTEATONTON.ORG/VBS

