

MARCH 2, 2023

# First Baptist Church of Eatonton Messenger

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



## FROM THE PASTOR

Lent began a week ago. Maybe you missed it? Well, the bad news is you can't get that time back. But the good news is there are yet thirty plus days still in the rest of Lent.

Maybe it is repetitive for me to say so, but I had to repeat it for years before I finally remembered it. Lent is a period of forty days before Easter, beginning on Ash Wednesday excluding the Sundays. Lent is designated as a time by the Christian church to prepare one's self to more meaningfully celebrate Easter. For many churches it is a time of study for those seeking baptism. The study, also called catechism or sometimes confirmation, prepares them for baptism on Easter Sunday! In Baptist tradition Lent is equivalent to the old school revival emphasis, when one would examine one's self, repent of one's sins and believe the Gospel. For some revival culminated in baptism and for others it culminated in rededication.

Regardless of tradition Lent is time to spend praying, reading scripture devotionally, turning over new chapters, giving up old chapters and finally being raised to new things, maybe even a new life. Some practice giving up something during the forty days – like sweet tea, in an effort to better one's health. Some dare to give up far more serious things than sweet tea. Like one's angry outbursts or one's isolation. Some people take on something new, like walking five days a week. Or again, some try something greater like reconciling with a friend or a child. Or reaching out to a stranger, forgiving one's self, moving beyond heavy guilt. You get the idea. You can easily see if you accomplish any of these things it might really raise up something new and gopely in you! Come Easter, you celebrate the resurrection of Christ and the resurrection of Christ in you!

The Sundays of Lent I'll preach from some of the Apostle Paul's writings about reconciliation, forgiveness and acceptance.

Holy Week will begin with Palm Sunday on April 2, continue each day with noon worship and culminate in Easter Sunday on April 9. Join the Lenten movement if you haven't already. Be cognizant of the Christian calendar, not just the Spring calendar. Enjoy both and experience the grace of our Lord that abounds.

*Lenting,*  
*Craig*

# WORSHIP AND MUSIC

On March 19 we will sing a wonderful *“Fly Away Medley”* arranged by Mark Hayes, that includes *“I’ll Fly Away,” “We’ll Understand It Better By and By,” “When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder,” “On Jordan’s Story Banks,”* and *“When the Saints Go Marching In.”* We want you to sing with us! Yes, we’d love for you to come rehearse with our Choir on Wednesdays at 7:15, but if that’s not possible you can rehearse on your own and still sing with us, either in the Choir Loft or the congregation. You can see and hear the music online at [jwpepper.com](http://jwpepper.com) by searching for that title and arranger.

The following Sunday, we will sing Bruce Greer’s beautiful arrangement of Michael W. Smith’s *“Shine On Us.”* The same resource will allow you to learn it on your own and still sing with us. Simply search for it by title and arranger on the same [jwpepper](http://jwpepper.com) web site. Yes, we’d love for you to come stand with us in the Choir so your voice can be added to our Facebook live service, but we want to do everything possible to make it possible for you to sing with us, even out in the congregation.

Our Choir has had a rough spell lately, with several absent because of their own illness or that of a loved one. With a small group, every absence is keenly felt. We desperately need an infusion of new singers if this ministry is to continue. Don’t fall for the Destroyer’s lie, *“I can’t sing,”* or *“I don’t read music.”* You couldn’t spell, add, or ride a bike before you learned how, and we provide easy, learn-as-you-go training. Prior ability is not nearly as important as a willingness to learn and serve.

Thanks,  
John

## THE ORGAN KING OF INSTRUMENTS! Justin Maxey, Guest Organist



**Thursday, March 23, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**First Baptist Church, Milledgeville**

Introduction to the state of the art new Aeolian-Skinner organ with digital Voices by Walker Technical

- The loud, majestic sounds of organ trumpets
- The lush sound of strings
- The rich colors of the flutes
- The solo sound of oboe, clarinet, and English horn



# CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

DNOW '23 is here! Friday, March 10th to Sunday, March 12th we will be hosting 150+ students and their leaders for an amazing weekend of worship and fellowship! We are still in need of some donations for food and snack items; bottled water, cookies, chips, fruit, breakfast/granola bars, milk, orange juice, & bread. I am looking forward to an amazing weekend filled with the Holy Spirit as we worship together.

Parents and volunteers, we will have a meeting on Monday (March 6, 2023) at 6:00 PM in the FBCE Sanctuary. This is to address the final needs for DNOW, but also to do some planning for upcoming events and worship services. Please be here if you can. It is impossible for me to pick a day and time to meet where there is not already something else scheduled with the school systems.

We are about to start our registration for River of Life Mission Project 2023, so please join me in prayer for this and the process that goes with it.

I am enjoying working with you all and your students. Thank you all for your support and prayers!  
*Dylan*

## YOUTH PARENTS AND VOLUNTEERS MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 6  
6:00 PM  
SANCTUARY

CONTACT DYLAN FOR  
MORE INFORMATION

## YOUTH WEEKLY EVENTS

Come Grow with Us

SUN. SMALL GROUP  
9:45 AM

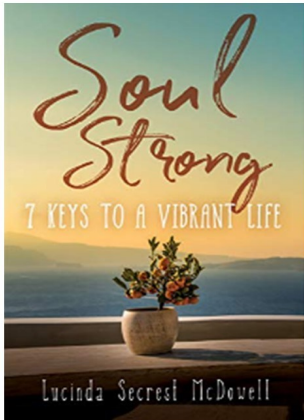
SUN. FELLOWSHIP  
6:00 PM

WED. WORSHIP  
6:00 PM

DNOW 2023  
MARCH 10-12

# SO MUCH MORE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Ladies Bible Study

MONDAY, March 6  
AT 6:00 PM  
AT THE HOME OF  
TRACY STICKLEY

Contact Kim Camp to sign up  
or for more information.

## Easter LILLIES

Cost is \$8  
Deadline is March 20

Easter Lilies will be placed in the Sanctuary for Easter.  
If you would like to place a lily in memory or honor of a loved one, please place your check and information in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

## Experience Easter

**PALM SUNDAY**  
APRIL 2 AT 10:50 AM

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES**  
APRIL 3 – APRIL 7  
AT 12 NOON  
LUNCH PROVIDED

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
APRIL 6 AT 6 PM

**COMMUNITY SUNRISE SERVICE**  
APRIL 9 7 AM AT THE PLAZA

**EASTER SERVICE**  
APRIL 9 AT 10:50 AM

# MARCH 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Food Drive for PCO Deadline 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 6pm Youth Group	6 6pm Ladies Bible Study 6pm Youth Parents and Volunteers Meeting	7 Deliver food to Putnam Christian Outreach	8 5:30pm Supper 6pm AWANA 6pm Youth Group 6:15pm Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	9	10 DNO	11 DNO
12 DNO 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 6pm Youth Group	13	14	15 5:30pm Supper 6pm AWANA 6pm Youth Group 6:15pm Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	16	17 <i>Happy St. Patrick's Day</i>	18
19 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 6pm Youth Group	20 Deadline to Order Lilies <i>1st DAY OF Spring</i>	21	22 5:30pm Supper 6pm AWANA 6pm Youth Group 6:15pm Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	23 7pm Organ Concert at First Baptist Milledgeville	24	25
26 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 6pm Youth Group	27	28	29	30	31	

# WELCOME

We welcome Jessica Davis to the membership of First Baptist Church.

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### WELCOMING FOR MARCH

Terry and Phyllis Blanton

### USHERS FOR MARCH

Marvin Franklin  
Gene Adams  
Edge Farley  
Clayton Lancaster  
Steve Tubbs

### DEACON FOR MARCH 5

Cooper Rainey

### DEACON FAMILIES

David Dixon family  
Pam Douglas  
Jim Howell family  
Mike Lyons family  
Charles Patten family  
Glenda Ridley  
Jene Welch family

### DEACON FOR MARCH 12

Walt Rocker

### DEACON FAMILIES

Russell Davis family  
Julia Davis  
Clyde Harper family  
Julie Harper  
Gaye Lankford  
Bill Sharp family  
Jill Vaughan

# BIRTHDAYS

03/02 - Donald Baker, Hollis Harrison  
03/03 - Martha Strube  
03/05 - Helen Benshoof, Charlee Anne Brown, Ryan Carmichael  
03/06 - Don Masson, Paula Rossee  
03/10 - Konrad Underkofler, Edward Ricketson  
03/12 - Mary Culberson  
03/13 - Annie McMillen  
03/14 - Ronnie Williams  
03/16 - Marie Rainey

## ANNIVERSARIES

03/08 - Carl and Elaine Haizlip  
03/10 - Tim and Kim Camp  
03/14 - Ronnie and Cheryl Williams

## WORSHIP REPORT

<u>Sunday, February 19</u>	<u>128</u>
<u>Sunday, February 26</u>	<u>103</u>

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### FEBRUARY 19, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$7,442.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$83,138.08</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$79,605.75</u>

### FEBRUARY 26, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$7,235.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$93,530.34</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$86,840.75</u>

## THANK YOU

Thank you to my loving church family for all the wonderful expressions shown through prayers, cards, calls, and beautiful flowers during my recent surgery and continuing recovery. I love you all.

Janette McCollum



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

## MISSION OPPORTUNITY

### FOOD DRIVE

**Sunday, February 5 - Sunday, March 5**  
**BRING FOOD TO THE CHURCH SANCTUARY**

Please help us collect non-perishable foods for Putnam Christian Outreach. This food drive serves many families in need within our community.



### MOST NEEDED FOOD ITEMS FOR PCO FOOD DRIVE



HORIZON ORGANIC LOWFAT MILK  
MC TRADER MILK  
A2 WHOLE MILK  
FROSTED FLAKES CEREAL  
CHEF BOYARDEE  
MACARONI AND CHEESE CUPS

