

JUNE 15, 2023

First Baptist Church of Eatonton Messenger

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



FROM THE PASTOR

I'm not sure if anyone heard it besides me. And it has been a long time since I've climbed a good tree. Nevertheless, the comment sounded like good theology. Ms. Cindy was leading the children's sermon about Zacchaeus when she summarized with some final statements, among which was the statement, "... so if you can't see Jesus, climb a tree and you will." That may not be exactly what she said. I know in leading my share of children's sermons I've had no recollection sometimes of saying the things people say they heard me say. Regardless, I like the line. "If you can't see Jesus, climb a tree and you will."

As I said earlier, I haven't climbed a tree in a long time. When I walk, my walking path takes me past a deer stand someone tied to a tree where I regularly see deer. But I haven't taken time to climb up to the platform. After hearing too many deer hunters' 'I've fallen and can't get up' stories, I'm a little hesitant to risk such a climb.

However, I recall as a boy loving to climb this one magnolia tree that grew deep in the woods on the family farm. After walking around in the woods hunting for almost anything to shoot and finding nothing, I found myself climbing a huge magnolia tree. This particular magnolia had limbs to the ground so it was an easy approach. The limbs grew close enough together it was almost like climbing a circular staircase. When I got to the top, I gasped at the view and the breath-taking, swaying motion. I still recall being so far above the ground and gasping for breath as the tree top blew in the wind. But I didn't connect it to Jesus until Ms. Cindy in church worship connected it for me. There I was, held in the arms of a gracious Savior above all things, swaying in the wind. I tell myself it is still true, even when it feels like something else is happening. I think of climbing that tree and seeing Jesus. Thank you, Ms. Cindy, for telling me that's what was happening!

I'm tempted to climb a tree real soon. And if I find the right tree, I'm pretty sure I will - to see Jesus, to be held. However it happens to you, I pray upon you the blessing of being held in the arms of a gracious Savior above all things, swaying in the wind.

**Grace and Peace,
Craig**

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Everyone that led VBS!

You held children in the arms of Jesus and swung them in the graces of God.

Blessed are you!

YOUTH NEWS

We have a lot of things coming up for the rest of this year and into the summer. Please mark your calendars! We are still fleshing out some of the ideas for this Fall, but I wanted to make sure you were aware of what is currently planned for the summer. I will be contacting the kids directly at youth group and via text to help get them pumped! Stay tuned on the church Facebook page, Sunday Bulletin, and on the church website for updates!

I also ask that you all would join me in praying for our Student Ministry. Pray that God would open doors for us to connect with the students we have, for doors to open that lead us to meeting new students. Pray with me, that through all we say and do in this Ministry that God would be glorified, and Christ would be made known, and relationships with Him would be nurtured and strengthened. I look forward to what the future of the FBCE Student Ministry holds for us all. As always, I am praying for you. Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

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!



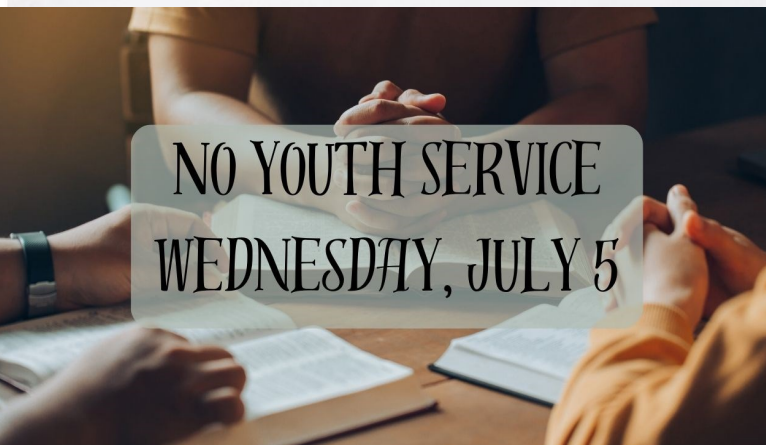
YOUTH BOWLING AND ARCADE TRIP
FRIDAY, JUNE 30

CONTACT DYLAN OR THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN UP



Youth Trip to Stone Mountain
Sunday, July 2

Contact Dylan to sign up!



NO YOUTH SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 5



YOUTH TRIP TO TOPGOLF
WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

CONTACT DYLAN TO SIGN UP!

MAKING MUSIC FROM OUR HEARTS TO THE LORD

While our Choir is taking a Summer Sabbatical, our musical worship is not. Last Sunday, Sonny and Janice Turner inspired us with their "I Am Determined." For this Sunday, Roger Vining has written new lyrics to a wonderful song that he and Edward Ricketson will sing, "The Life You Made Whole." On June 27, the congregation will select our hymns for the day. On July 2 we will be thanking our God for all He has done, and praying that He will bless America as we, the people called by His name, humble ourselves, pray, and seek His face, asking that He will hear from heaven and heal our land.

Our Choir will begin their new semester with a special Kick Off Party at the Tom Thompsons' home on Wednesday, August 2, at 6:00 pm. We invite all present, former, and potential Choir members to join us for food, fun, and fellowship, not to mention a bit of singing together. We will introduce the music for our December 2 "Christmas on the Avenue."

Our JuBELLation Handbell Choir is looking for folks to come enjoy this exciting ministry. No experience is needed, just an adventurous, fun-loving spirit. We will begin rehearsing in September, but John Cotten will be happy to introduce new ringers to the joys of handbells before then.

John

*"Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.
Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord."*

- Ephesians 5:19 -

PRAYER NEEDS

Sympathy: Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Zandla Wright in her passing.

Our Members: Tom Hicks, Margaret Howell, Brian Neukam, Scott Sharp, Janice Turner, Nell Wright, Unspoken

Friends and Family: Mattelyn Atkinson, Nancy Banister, Lloyd Bowden, Jim Branam, Tommy Callaway, Mary Camp, Rick Cogdell, Quita Edwards, Karen Henry-Garrett, Joan Haws, Leo Jasinski, Pam Lacey, Everett Marsh, Red Marshall, Eleanor Moye, 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

A graphic featuring a close-up of hands clasped in prayer over an open Bible. The text "Prayer REQUESTS" is written in a mix of white cursive and bold yellow block letters. Below, a white text box contains the contact information for prayer requests.

**Prayer
REQUESTS**

**If you have a prayer request
or need, call the Church Office
at 706-485-3331**

A graphic with a background of an American flag and fireworks. The text "CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY" is written in white block letters. A red banner at the bottom indicates the date.

**CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED FOR
INDEPENDENCE
DAY**

TUESDAY, JULY 4TH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

*Thank you to Cindy Williams and all the volunteers for a wonderful Vacation Bible School.
Thank you for sharing your children and grandchildren with us and
allowing us to teach them about Jesus and the Twists and Turns of Life!*



FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES THE GAME



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

WELCOMING FOR JUNE

Randall McCook

WELCOMING FOR JULY

Clayton and Pam Lancaster

USHERS FOR JUNE

Ennis Lankford, Don Baker, Tim Camp,
Hollis Harrison, Mike Reagin

USHERS FOR JULY

Cary Walton, David Giddens, Scott Joris,
Ben Leverette, Jesse McMillen, Charles Patten

DEACON FOR JUNE 18

Cherry Leverette

DEACON FAMILIES

Barry Chambers family
Anne Marie Horton family
Jim Kauffmann family
John Patient
Jean Rich
Ronnie Williams family

DEACON FOR JUNE 25

Harris McCollum

DEACON FAMILIES

Ralph Barclay family
Sharon Haney
Paula Rossee family
Grady Strube family
Lynda Walker family
Cary Walton family
Sug Walton

DEACON FOR JULY 2

Steven Prance

DEACON FAMILIES

Howell Cardwell family
Jo Ann Clay
David Giddens family
Janice Knowles family
Harris McCollum family
Gary McElhenney
Karen Ricketson family

BIRTHDAYS

06/16 - Pam Thompson, Tom Thompson
06/18 - Laura Thompson
06/20 - Steve Marshall
06/21 - Anne Marie Horton
06/23 - Phyllis Blanton, Randall McCook
06/27 - Sara Beck
06/29 - Linda Copelan, Cindy Williams
06/30 - Kyle Ralston, Tracy Stickley
07/01 - Daryl Covington
07/04 - Rebecca Prance, Frank Thompson
07/06 - Karen Ricketson

ANNIVERSARIES

06/15 - Terry and Phyllis Blanton
06/15 - Victor and Kay Stevens
06/16 - Cooper and Marie Rainey
06/17 - Marvin and Annette Franklin
06/20 - Stew and Ashley Rich
06/21 - Jeffrey and Janice Knowles
06/22 - Sammy and Lynda Walker
06/26 - Jim and Vicki Hall
06/29 - Donald and Tammy Baker

WORSHIP REPORT

<u>Sunday, June 04</u>	<u>130</u>
<u>Sunday, June 11</u>	<u>93</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

MAY 28, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$7,902.50</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$228,727.72</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$211,915.40</u>

JUNE 4, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$13,314.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$239,119.98</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$225,229.40</u>

JUNE 11, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$6,746.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$249,512.24</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$231,975.40</u>

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!