

OCTOBER 5, 2023

*First Baptist Church
of Eatonton*
Messenger

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



FROM THE PASTOR

I haven't thought about it in this way, as an act of resistance. But we do it all the time. "Giving, as an act of resistance," says Rev. Satterlee. It may sound like a rather negative motivation, but it really is an act of courage, of brave defiance.

The truth is we do it all the time. In defiance of the rudeness that runs wild sometimes, we make a concerted effort to be kind. To the waitress at our table, we smile and speak politely in the face of her demanding requests from so many customers. We proactively leave a kind tip. In the face of what looks like a boring job, on their feet all day, scanning items one after another, never a break in the line, we make an effort to be gracious to the grocery clerk. As others pass by the pan-handler we find a dollar or even a five and offer it, along with a smile as we go by. When hurt and feeling justified in our actions, we resist lashing out and respond to our friend or family member with love. Though rushed by our fast-paced lives, we resist and hold the door for the next person coming through. Even on the road, where courtesy seems almost nonexistent, we stop to hold back the line of traffic to let someone pull out in front of us.

And on and on it can go. With our acts of resistance, we make the effort to be faithful, Christ like people. Among those acts of resistance we give, even tithe, as a part of our life. We understand the draw of affluence. We hear the call of the ancient language from scripture about the power of mammon. We listen to the call to resist the powers of selfishness with the simple act of giving freely, regularly, to God's church. We take time to calculate the cost of our barns as Jesus told in that story of the man who failed to resist. He succumbed to the powers of mammon. Found himself investing his life in ways that were meaningless in the end.

So, while I haven't thought of it in this way for a while, I think how significant that we give as an act of resistance. I wonder if such giving isn't a strong part of the wisdom of James, "resist the devil and he will flee from you." Giving is a gracious, even healing act. It not only shares necessary resources, but also redeems us from the mammon. Mammon would overwhelm us if left to roam free among us.

I'm grateful for the gift of giving and the privilege of being able to give. What joy!

**Giving,
Craig**



1 GIVE BY MAIL

MAIL TO P.O. BOX 3400
EATONTON, GA 31024

2 GIVE ONLINE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
FIRSTBAPTISTEATONTON.ORG
AND CLICK ON THE DONATE
BUTTON AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE

3 GIVE IN PERSON

PLACE IN THE OFFERING PLATES
OR BRING TO THE CHURCH OFFICE

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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

I have been serving for 11 years on staff at different churches, and I still need to be reminded why youth ministry is important. I need to be reminded because the truth is that student ministry can be difficult. Many times, it's just easier to let teens do what they want and think they don't desire or need adults in their lives. It may be easy to ignore them, but the truth is that they are desperate for adults to actually show up and invest in their life on a consistent basis.

I believe teens & youth need someone from the Faith Community who will invest in them, show up, support them, and listen to and love them. I know from personal experience how beneficial a supportive and encouraging Youth Pastor can be. We live in a difficult and challenging world. I think that Youth Ministry today is more different and challenging than it's ever been.

Look at these recent statistics from Fuller Youth Institute:

- 1/3 Youth struggle with mental health.
- 61% of Youth say that the adults in their life don't know that they struggle with mental health (anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts).
- 37% of Youth say they are not acknowledged or called by name when they attend Church or Faith based groups.
- 1/5 Students don't receive any welcome when they show up to an event.

This is heart breaking and unacceptable. Why do I enjoy and want to work with students? Because students need to know that they belong. They need to know that they matter, and are cared for and appreciated. They need to know that we love them, and so does Christ.

Here are three things you can do to support our Students and the Youth Ministry here at First Baptist Church:

- 1) **PRAY.** Pray for our students, our staff and volunteers. That through the help of the Holy Spirit we might connect with students and help them to know or grow in Christ.
- 2) **VOLUNTEER.** We have a place for everyone! We are always in need of volunteers. If you feel led to be a part of what God is doing here, get involved.
- 3) **SHOW UP.** The hardest part of Youth Ministry is feeling like we are fighting against everything else students and families are doing. There are 168 hours in a week. We meet for just 1.5 hours each week.

Blessings,
Dylan



JOIN US

CBFGA
Youth Fall Retreat
November 3-5, 2023
Camp Glisson, Dahlonega, GA

**CONTACT DYLAN TO SIGN UP
OR FOR MORE INFORMATION**

MINISTRY THROUGH MUSIC



“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.” (Colossians 3:16)

Thank you for participating in our **Congregational Singing Survey**. Craig, Dylan, and I appreciate every response, and take each comment seriously. However, we recognize that there is an inherent danger in taking such surveys: they call us to focus on ourselves and our own preferences. Most of Jesus’ ministry was the exact opposite. For instance, the Good Samaritan would never have stopped to render aid if he had thought only of himself.

Romans 12:10 says *“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.”* We are to put others first and to treat them with honor, respect, and kindness. This is a primary characteristic of a God-pleasing church, and it includes every area of our church’s life and mission. So while it is good occasionally to see what helps *me* to worship best, it’s even better for *me* to be more concerned about what helps *others*. This is especially true of a multi-generational church like ours.

The Putnam County Health Fair, a multi-faceted event that will include a 5k run, a Health Screening & Education event, a Fall Festival, and a Gospel Concert, is Saturday, October 28. Singers of our church have been invited to be part of a **Community Gospel Choir** on the Main Street City Stage. Sound check will be at 1:30 p.m., followed by the concert at 2:00 p.m. You do not have to be a part of our Choir to participate. There are two Saturday rehearsals, October 14th and 21st, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of New Life Outreach Christian Center. Our Director is Cecil Kilgore, Minister of Music for New Life Outreach and Putnam County Health Communicator. He will lead us in *“Goodness of God,” “I believe”* by CC Winans, and *“Trouble Don’t Last Always”* by Timothy Wright.

Yes, we are busy rehearsing for our 15th Annual “Christmas on the Avenue,” slated for Sunday, December 3, and yes, our Saturdays are precious. But I’m reminded of what God tells us in Psalm 133, *“How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters live together in harmony! For harmony is as precious as anointing oil...”* This is a unique opportunity for singers of our community to literally live in harmony!

John Cotten

*Christmas
on the
Avenue*
REHEARSALS
WEDNESDAYS AT 7:15 PM
CONTACT JOHN COTTEN
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

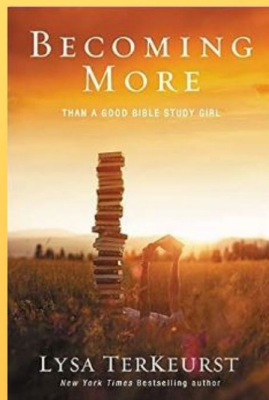
CHRISTMAS ON
THE AVENUE
O Holy Light
Sunday, December 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISASTER RELIEF



IF YOU WISH TO GIVE TO THE DISASTER RELIEF OFFERING, PLEASE USE THE DESIGNATED OFFERING ENVELOPE IN THE PEW RACK OR DROP YOUR OFFERING OFF BY THE CHURCH OFFICE THIS WEEK. ALL DESIGNATED OFFERINGS WILL BE SHARED WITH OUR PARTNERS AT THE COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP OF GA.



Ladies 6-Week Bible Study

"Becoming More Than a Good Bible Study Girl" by Lysa Terkeurst

Monday, October 9
from 6PM - 8PM

At the home of Kim Camp

Contact Kim Camp for more information.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22
AT 10:50 AM
DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

WE WILL BE VOTING ON THE 2024
DEACONS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEES



DEACON VOTE

Prayerfully consider the following nominees as you vote for our 2024 Deacons on Sunday, October 22:

**Robin Benton, Barry Chambers,
Susan Davis, Mike Faulk,
Clayton Lancaster, Jesse McMillen,
James Ryan, Bill Sharp**

You may vote for up to 6 nominees.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT VOTE

Be in prayer for our Nominating Committee as they are reviewing and enlisting people to serve in the variety of ways needed for our church. Prayerfully consider the requests of these leaders as they approach you and courageously ask and enlist.



Putnam County

HEALTH FAIR

Vendors Needed!

APPLY TODAY



Join us at Eatonton City Center

Submit your information: garuralhealth.link/vendors

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 28
11 AM — 2 PM



PUTNAM COUNTY
family connection

COMMUNION SERVICE

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 29



5th Sunday Lunch

OCTOBER 29
FOLLOWING MORNING WORSHIP

The church will provide
meat, tea and bread.

Please bring casseroles,
vegetables, salads, AND desserts.

JOIN US THIS FALL



**PUMPKIN
PATCH**
AT SSLC

GRAND OPENING
SUNDAY OCT. 8TH
1-6PM

Hours:
M-F 3-8 pm
Saturday 10am-8pm

School field trips can be scheduled outside of regular hours if scheduled in advance call: 706-485-0690

SEE YOU THERE!



FBCE & SSLC

PUMPKIN PATCH
Volunteers

OCTOBER 8TH-31ST

Please scan the QR code or use link at bottom of page to sign up. Once sign up sheet is on your device, click the editor pen on bottom right corner to edit. Further instructions are on sign up sheet.

Instructions for QR code:

- Pull up your camera app on phone
- Point camera toward QR code
- Click on link that pops up

https://docs.google.com/document/d/120T47WnwNgcqd3PBWNcW_GbpB6xwY_u-A1MDcSuYmsA/edit?usp=sharing



FALL
festival

SATURDAY
21st October 2023
5-8 pm

Covington Farm Eatonton

Photo opp, games, hayride
Bounce house, pumpkin painting
Hotdogs, s'mores, candy scavenger hunt



Stepping Stones Learning Center

PARENT'S
Night out

**28TH
OCTOBER**

4:30 pm - 8:30 pm

\$40 PER ONE CHILD
\$70 FOR TWO CHILDREN
\$90 FOR 3 OR MORE

CASH PREFERRED

OCTOBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 1:30pm Handbells 5pm Youth Recreation and Devotional	2 Ladies Bible Study 6:00pm - 8:00pm	3	4 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Children 6:00pm Youth 6:15pm Adult Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	5 8:00am Men's Prayer Group in the Sanctuary	6	7 10am Pumpkin Patch unload and set up
8 9:45am Sunday School 8:30am Deacons Meeting 10:50am Worship 1:30pm Handbells 5pm Youth Recreation and Devotional	9 Columbus Day Ladies Bible Study 6:00pm - 8:00pm	10	11 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Children 6:00pm Youth 6:15pm Adult Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	12 8:00am Men's Prayer Group in the Sanctuary	13	14
15 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 1:30pm Handbells 5pm Youth Recreation and Devotional	16 Ladies Bible Study 6:00pm - 8:00pm	17	18 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Children 6:00pm Youth 6:15pm Adult Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	19 8:00am Men's Prayer Group in the Sanctuary	20	21 Fall Festival 5pm - 8pm at Daryl and Connie Covington's House
22 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship & Church Conference 1:30pm Handbells 5pm Youth Recreation and Devotional	23 Ladies Bible Study 6:00pm - 8:00pm	24	25 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Children 6:00pm Youth 6:15pm Adult Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	26 8:00am Men's Prayer Group in the Sanctuary	27	28 Community Health Care Event Stepping Stones Parents Night Out 4:30pm - 8:30pm
29 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship, Communion, & All Saints Sunday 12pm 5th Sunday Lunch 1:30pm Handbells 5pm Youth Recreation and Devotional	30	31 Halloween				

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

WELCOMING FOR OCTOBER

Jim and Vicki Hall

USHERS FOR OCTOBER

David Stickley
Jarred Camp
John Wojtas
Walt Rucker
Jim Hall

DEACON FOR OCTOBER 8

Jim Hall

DEACON FAMILIES

Chad Davis family
Jeff Davis family
David Stickley family
Jimmy Williams

DEACON FOR OCTOBER 15

Pam Lancaster

DEACON FAMILIES

Jack Ferrell
Marvin Franklin family
Sheryl Hall
Scott Joris family
Steve Marshall
Pat McDade

WELCOME

We welcome Andrea Wolverton to the membership of First Baptist Church by transfer of letter.

BIRTHDAYS

10/05 - Esther Farley
10/07 - Ford Rucker
10/08 - Walt Rucker, John Wojtas
10/12 - Isabella Stickley, Jack Stickley
10/13 - Rose Carmichael, Scott Joris,
Craig Williamson
10/14 - Karlie Horton
10/19 - Lynda Walker, Warren Yates

ANNIVERSARY

10/12 - Jarred and Alexie Camp
10/14 - Ryan and Denis Carmichael
10/16 - John and Heather Wojtas

WORSHIP REPORT

<u>Sunday, September 24</u>	<u>115</u>
<u>Sunday, October 01</u>	<u>110</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$6,610.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$394,905.88</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$367,573.94</u>

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$12,163.25</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$405,298.14</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$379,737.19</u>

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



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
FOR OUR
PUMPKIN PATCH SET UP
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 AT 10 AM