

First Baptist Church Eatonton

NEWSLETTER

"Followers of Christ Sharing God's Love and Grace with All" – August 6, 2026

A WORD OF GRATITUDE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Thank you for your faithful giving throughout the summer. We began this financial year with significant challenges. Three worship services were canceled in January because of severe weather, and unexpected expenses during the spring used a majority of our reserve funds. I am grateful those reserves were available when we needed them.

I am also grateful for the continued generosity of this congregation. Even during the summer months, so many have remained faithful in supporting the ministry and mission of First Baptist Church. Your commitment matters.

A recent reminder encouraged me that ministry is not the work of one person. While pastors and staff have particular roles, every person in the body of Christ has been given gifts to share. God calls each of us to use those gifts in service to the Lord, one another, and Christ's mission.

One of the things I appreciate most about FBC is that the church works because so many people step forward with their time, talents, creativity, and compassion. Together, we are the church Christ calls us to be.

My prayers are with our children, youth, and parents as they begin another school year, and with those beginning college or new chapters of life. Let us remind them they are surrounded by a church that loves them. A prayer, a word of encouragement, a card, a text, or showing up for an event can help them be bold and courageous as they grow into the people God is calling them to become.

Peace – Craig

A JOYFUL RETURN: FALL KICKOFF IS HERE!

Can you hear it? — The sound of chairs scraping into place, music folders being dusted off, and voices and bells warming up for another season of worship together. I couldn't be more thrilled for our Fall semester to start, marking the return of our Children's Choir, Handbell Choir, and Chancel Choir rehearsals! Whether you've been with us for years or are considering joining for the very first time, this is the perfect moment to step in. Music has always been one of the most powerful ways our congregation connects with God and with one another, and there's truly a place in this ministry for every voice and every set of hands, young and old alike.

As we kick off this new season, I want to encourage anyone who has felt a nudge toward music ministry to take that first step. Our Children's Choir will meet each Tuesday, from 3-4:30 PM and is a wonderful way for our youngest members to grow in faith while learning to sing with confidence and joy. Handbell Choir returns on Wednesday 09/12/26 at 6:15PM, offering a beautiful and meditative way to serve through music, no experience necessary — just a willingness to learn! And our Chancel Choir, the heartbeat of our Sunday worship, resumes rehearsals on Wednesday 09/12/26 at 7:15 PM, welcoming anyone who loves to sing and wants to lead our congregation in praise. I look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting new ones as we lift our voices together this fall. Come join us, the music is calling!

Dylan

BACK TO SCHOOL: A NEW SEASON

As summer comes to an end and a new school year begins, our families are entering a season filled with new routines, new opportunities, and maybe even a few nerves! As parents, grandparents, teachers, and church family, we have the privilege of encouraging our children as they learn and grow.

This school year, let's remember to pray for our children, teachers, and school staff. Pray that our kids will be kind, courageous, and willing to let their faith shine wherever they go. And let's continue to remind them that no matter what this new year brings, they are loved by God and supported by their church family. We are praying for a wonderful school year and are excited to walk alongside our families every step of the way!

Kyle

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Our Members: Joan Barclay, Steve Benton, Terry Blanton, Jim Cheney, Susan Davis, George Dissmeyer, Joan Key, Gwen Ralston, Kyle Ralston, Linda Reagin, Scott Sharp, Van Wells, Jimmy Williams, Unspoken Requests

Friends and Family: Tyrone Alford, Dennis and Gale Brown, Lynn Butterworth, Neile Chambers, Gloria Covington, Billy and Nancy Joiner, Dale Joiner, Jo Ellen LaRue, Mike Liles, Jim Lynch, Zellie Marbury, Christie Nichols, Walt Rocker Jr., Earnest Rogers

Assisted Living/Nursing & Homebound: Mary Jo Balas, Jo Ann Clay, Mary Ann Heath, Steve Marshall, Jean Rich, Sug Walton

Missionary Families: Trey and Kaitlyn Lancaster in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe & Matt and Michelle Norman in Catalunya, Spain

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

WELCOMING FOR AUGUST

Charles and Shelia Patten

USHERS FOR AUGUST

Mike Lyons, Head Usher

Howell Cardwell, Mike Faulk, Chris Hewette



DEACON FAMILY MINISTRY

DEACON FOR AUGUST 09 -John Wojtas

Deacon Families: Jarred Camp Family, Tim Camp Family, JoAnn Clay, Christian Keiser Family, Andrea Paugh, Stew Rich Family, Roger Vining Family, Lauren Wooten Family

DEACON FOR AUGUST 16 - Roger Vining

Deacon Families: Tasha Cannon Family, George Dissmeyer Family, David Lutz Family, Beth Willis, Karen Willis Family, Charles Winslette Family, Warren Yates

DEACON FOR AUGUST 23 - Cheryl Williams

Deacon Families: Howell Cardwell Family, Sherri Farmer Family, David Giddens Family, Harris McCollum Family, Kelli Phillips, Karen Ricketson Family, John Wojtas Family

DEACON FOR AUGUST 30 - Charles Winslette

Deacon Families: Ralph Barclay Family, Sharon Haney, Paula Rossee Family, Bill Sharp Family, Grady Strube, Lynda Walker Family, Cary Walton Family, Sug Walton

WORSHIP REPORT

<u>Sunday, July 05</u>	85
<u>Sunday, July 12</u>	108
<u>Sunday, July 19</u>	90
<u>Sunday, July 26</u>	135



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Back to School Bash will be on Friday, August 7 at 5:00pm on the Front Lawn

Wednesday Night Services begin on August 12 – 5:30pm Supper, 6:15pm Bible Study & Handbells, 7:15pm Choir

Children's Choir begins on Tuesday, August 18 at 3:00pm

Church Conference will be on Sunday, August 23 during morning worship. The Deacon Nominee list for 2027 will be available in the Narthex. You will be asked to vote for up to 12 nominees.

The Lord's Supper will be observed on Sunday, August 30 during morning worship.

5th Sunday Lunch will be on Sunday, August 30 following morning worship. The church will provide the meat, bread and tea. Please bring casseroles, vegetables, salads and desserts.

BIRTHDAYS

08/06 – Rhett Rich

08/07 – Tara Bushmiaer, Marsha Lutz

08/08 – Susan Davis

08/11 – Gene Adams

08/12 – Eleanor Rocker

08/13 – Mabel Hicks

08/15 – Tina Dupree, David Heath

08/16 – Alexie Camp, Guerry Key

08/19 – Lyndie Hewette

08/23 – Roger Vining, Cheryl Williams

08/24 – Victor Stevens, Jill Vaughan

08/25 – Howell Cardwell

08/26 – Karen Harrison

08/27 – Tasha Cannon

08/29 – Billy Peebles

08/31 – Bill Kitchen

09/01 – Terry Blanton, Andrea Paugh

09/03 – Sheila Patten



ANNIVERSARIES

08/04 – David and Joni Dixon

08/09 – Mac and Libby Rainey

08/09 – Sonny and Janice Turner

08/15 – Joe and Paula Rossee

08/20 – Roger and Jeanne Vining

08/23 – Bill and Judie Kitchen

08/31 – Jim and Margaret Howell

09/01 – Don and Rita Masson



FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Needs YTD \$276,165.00

Total Receipts YTD \$275,334.18

Budget Expenditures YTD \$326,644.43

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