

MAY 18, 2023

# First Baptist Church of Eatonton Messenger

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



## FROM THE PASTOR

**Wednesday night adult studies** have concluded, but a nugget from last night is too good not to repeat. We've been studying *Questions God Asks Us*, led by Trevor Hudson's book by the same title. Hudson referenced another author John Dear. Yes, that is not a misprint. John Dear is not only a big green tractor but a reflective writer, reflecting on *The Questions of Jesus: Challenging Ourselves to Discover Life's Great Answers*. Dear writes devotionally about the questions of Jesus.

The last question in our study was, "Do you understand what I've done for you?" It's the question Jesus asks after washing the disciples' feet in the Gospel of John, chapter 13.

"Do you understand what I've done for you?" Jesus asks. It's a great question to ponder, to meditate upon for a devotion.

### Rev. Dear leads us as he writes:

"it will take a lifetime of daily meditation to begin to understand what Jesus has done for us. ... Jesus imagined us, created us, and breathed life into us. He loves us, protects us, and redeems us. He gave his life for us, rose from the dead for us, sent his Holy Spirit upon us and welcome us into his reign of peace as his beloved sisters and brothers. ... Jesus walks with us and helps us every step of the way. Even when we are most alone and in greatest need, Jesus supports us. He is always there for us."

In conclusion to his devotional thoughts about this question, Dear concludes:

"Perhaps the best response is an honest, prayerful confession: No, Lord, I simply cannot grasp all that you have done for me and the human race. But I thank you and praise you nonetheless, and I beg for the wisdom to learn, understand and know what you have done for me and all of us. I ask you to help me imitate you by humbly serving others, selflessly loving others and gently preparing others to meet their deaths gracefully. Help me to give my life in service for suffering humanity, like you did. Grant that I may spend eternity thanking you for what you have done for me. Let us all grow in awareness of your infinite gift and praise you forever with grateful hearts."

I've adopted Dear's book for my devotional readings for the next couple of months. You might want to do something of the same. Or just read a Gospel and note the questions Jesus asks. Spend time pondering them. Meditate upon them as the Word of God. Thanks be to God!

**Pondering,**

Craig



# CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

Summer is here! We are looking forward to a great summer filled with fellowship, activities, and fun! Our Youth Ministry will continue to meet weekly on Wednesdays. The only difference will be, every other week we will be going out for an activity somewhere other than the church. We will meet at the church at 11:30 AM each Wednesday. If your student needs a ride to or from the Church please let Dylan know and he will make sure that is taken care of.

We will also have some missions opportunities this summer, for students to come and help us as we serve those in our church and community.

Vacation Bible School is June 11-14 from 6PM to 8PM each evening. We are in need of some Youth volunteers to help us this year as group leaders, and to help with some activities. Please let Dylan or Cindy know ASAP if you or your student are willing and able to help.

Please continue watching Facebook, your email, and text messages for updates and reminders of things going on within our Student Ministry here at FBCE.

*Dylan*

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



“Spin the spinner, beat the clock, skip ahead, level up, and play to win! You’ll need to bring your A-game for this VBS.

Twists & Turns is a fantastical celebration of games of all kinds. From classic tabletop games to video games and more, kids will play their way through VBS while learning that Jesus guides them through all the twists and turns of their lives. They’ll find that even when they mess up it’s never “game over.”” - Lifeway

**Join us for Vacation Bible School**

**June 11-14**

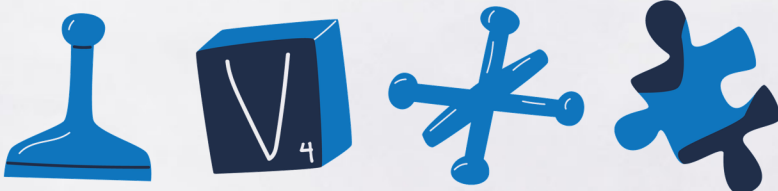
**6pm - 8pm**

**Dinner provided from 5:15pm - 6pm**

**Register online at [www.firstbaptistatonton.org/vbs](http://www.firstbaptistatonton.org/vbs)**

**Volunteers Needed**

**Contact Cindy Williams for more information**



**FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES THE GAME**





# ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Wednesday  
Connections*

**CONNECT  
GROW  
SERVE**

**NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
CONNECTIONS THIS SUMMER**

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



# FISH FRY

Wednesday, May 24

at 6 p.m.

in the Fellowship Hall

**WE WILL BE  
CLOSED  
FOR  
MEMORIAL  
DAY**

*Remember And Honor*  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

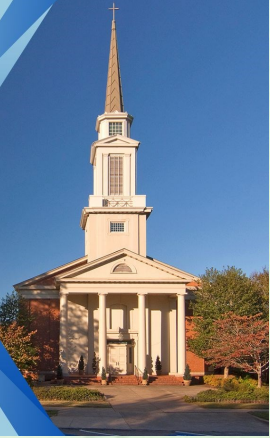


## CHURCH CONFERENCE

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

AT 10:50 AM

DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE



## MAPPIN FUND

REQUESTS ARE BEING  
ACCEPTED FOR THE MAPPIN  
FUND SCHOLARSHIP.  
THE DEADLINE IS JUNE 1

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR DETAILS.



## Men's Weekly Prayer Group

Thursdays at 8:00AM  
In the Sanctuary


# STAY CONNECTED WITH US THIS SUMMER

**THROUGH FACEBOOK,  
MAILCHIMP, EMAILS,  
TEXTS AND OUR WEBSITE**



**CALL THE OFFICE TO SIGN UP FOR THESE TODAY!**





# CONGRATULATIONS 2023 GRADUATES



*Adam Rossee*

Adam graduated high school from Putnam County High School and has an internship with the Forestry this summer. He is the son of Joe and Paula Rossee.



*Walker Cannon*

Walker graduated high school from Lake Oconee Academy and will be attending Georgia Military College to major in Business and Music. He is the son of Paul and Natasha Cannon.



*Karlie Horton*

Karlie graduated high school from Gatewood and will be attending The University of Georgia to major in Psychology and Criminal Justice. She is the daughter of Anne Marie Horton.



*Brooklyn Scott*

Brooklyn graduated high school from Putnam County High School and will be attending Athens Technical College to study to be a Veterinary Technician with plans to transfer to The University of Georgia to major in Veterinary Medicine. She is the daughter of James and Tabatha Scott.



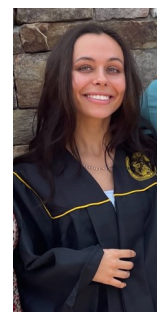
*Whitley Cannon*

Whitley graduated high school from Lake Oconee Academy and will be attending Georgia Southern University to pursue a career in Dental Hygiene. She is the daughter of Paul and Natasha Cannon.



*James Aidan Rainey*

Aidan graduated high school from Gatewood and will be attending Clemson University. He is the son of Mac and Libby Rainey.



*Kelsey Paige Walton*

Kelsey graduated college from Kennesaw State University and majored in Public Relations with a minor in Environmental Science and Spanish.



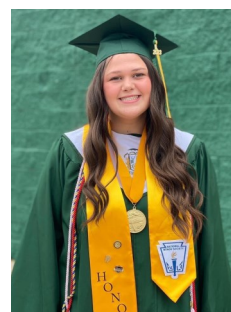
*Dakota Davis*

Dakota graduated high school from Gatewood and will be attending Georgia College and State University to major in Exercise Science. He is the son of Jeff and Alanna Davis.



*Parker McCarty Rainey*

Parker graduated high school from Gatewood and will be attending The University of Georgia. He is the son of Mac and Libby Rainey.



*Tifton Willis*

Tifton graduated high school from Gatewood and will be attending Valdosta State University to major in Nursing. She is the daughter of Hunter and Jessica Willis.

# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

## WELCOMING FOR MAY

Steve and Robin Benton

## USHERS FOR MAY

Steve Benton, Randall McCook,  
Charles Winslette, Steven Prance,  
Cooper Rainey

## DEACON FOR MAY 21

Joni Dixon

## DEACON FAMILIES

Sean Bennett and family  
Carl Haizlip family  
Clayton Lancaster family  
Ennis Lankford family  
Thomas Ralston family  
Joann Smith family  
Tom Thompson family

## DEACON FOR MAY 28

Edge Farley

## DEACON FAMILIES

Don Masson family  
Steven Prance family  
Cooper Rainey family  
Mac Rainey family

# BIRTHDAYS

05/21 - Patrice Underkofler  
05/25 - Jim Ryan  
05/26 - Tristan Lower, Linda Reagin  
05/27 - Tara Rocker  
05/28 - Edge Farley  
05/29 - David Dixon  
05/30 - James Cheney  
05/31 - Joni Dixon, Thomas Ralston  
06/01 - Lily Kate McElhenney

# ANNIVERSARIES

05/23 - Ronald and Gail Harley  
05/25 - Ennis and Caroline Lankford  
05/31 - Grady and Martha Strube

# WORSHIP REPORT

<u>Sunday, May 07</u>	<u>113</u>
<u>Sunday, May 14</u>	<u>142</u>

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## MAY 7, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$14,055.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$197,452.94</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$182,938.90</u>

## MAY 14, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$14,266.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$207,845.20</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$197,204.90</u>

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



graduate  
sunday

CONGRATS CLASS OF 2023! ●

*Join us on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>  
as we celebrate our 2023 Graduates*