

MAY 4, 2023

First Baptist Church of Eatonton Messenger

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



FROM THE PASTOR

The writings from the epistle I Peter have been leading us in our thoughts on Sundays as we live in the time known on the Christian calendar as Eastertide. We count the Sundays of Easter as the weeks pass, till we run into Pentecost Sunday.

In my own thoughts, I've followed one of Wendell Berry's lines from a poem, "practice resurrection" to lead my preaching during Eastertide. Thus far we've considered Resurrection Thinking and Resurrection Living. This Sunday's passage will lead us to consider Resurrection Calling. I Peter is an interesting text when you consider how it speaks to the ongoing resurrection community a few years after the actual resurrection. It reveals how the resurrection changes how they are called to see themselves and the world as a community of people who follow Jesus. Some of it is extremely challenging – like "when abused not to return abuse or to threaten those who create suffering." But I Peter is confident that people are born anew through the living and enduring word of God to be able to live lives that follow Jesus!

I encourage you to meditate upon being a resurrection, Easter community of people. What does that mean? How do you practice resurrection? The whole of scripture counsels us in such thoughts, but I Peter is specifically written with such things in mind. Read it and listen to the Spirit teach you beyond the page with the Spirit of Christ that yet abounds among us, empowering us to be a royal priesthood – connecting people and ourselves to one another and to God in meaningful ways, enabling people along the way of Christ – redeeming, forgiving, leading and loving people into a community of followers.

Celebrate the graduates among us! Mark these times of achievement and growth. The practice of such celebration is tantamount to people's living. Pray for students and families as graduates transition to young adulthood, new schools, jobs, communities, etc. May our graces linger upon these people to support the continued development of these students into partners with us in the Christian calling.

Practice Resurrection,

Craig

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

I have been serving for almost 10 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. Consistency is big because so much of life today is inconsistent. The typical American dream is fading. Family life is always changing. Teens are being forced to make choices about their future (college and career) at a time when they are just figuring out who they are. Teens need consistency and they need it from the church more than ever.

I really believe that in a culture that is continually changing, Jesus is the one thing that will always be unchanging. Jesus is relevant today and forever. Student ministries all across the country have the chance to partner with the church and with families to lead teens to Jesus. That's why what we do in youth ministry is important.

3 things you can do for our Youth Ministry at FBCE:

- 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.

We are looking forward to an amazing summer full of worship, discipleship, and fun! Be looking for a Summer calendar to go home on the last Wednesday night of the month this May. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

Blessings,
Dylan

CHOIR AND WORSHIP

Choir to Take a Summer Break

Our Choir will take a well deserved Summer Break during June and July, resuming after school starts. We will still worship musically each Sunday of course, but with musical worship that is more congregational than choral. They would love to have you join them for these final Sundays of this semester. Simply come to the Choir Room at 10:30 am on Sundays. Better yet, rehearse with us on Wednesdays, 7:15 pm. Our songs are relatively recent, and easy to get to know by listening online.

May 7 - "*Facing a Task Unfinished*," a great call to personal missions first written a hundred years ago, updated in 2015 by the Gettys. (Also, our *JuBELLation!* Handbell choir will help accompany us as we sing "*Victory in Jesus*" and "*Praise Him! Praise Him!*")

May 14 - Mother's Day. Our song, "*I Speak Jesus*," includes the beautiful lines, "*Shout Jesus from the mountains, Jesus in the streets, Jesus in the darkness over every enemy, Jesus for my family, I speak the holy name, Jesus!*"

May 21 - Graduate Recognition Sunday. Our anthem will remind graduates and the rest of us that indeed "*Christ (is) Our (only) Hope in Life and Death.*"

May 28 - Dylan Bowden will lead.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Parent's Night Out

Stepping Stones Learning Center

Let your favorite childcare providers spend some extra time with the kiddos while parents enjoy a night out! We will provide dinner and plenty of playtime!

May 6th 2023
4-9 p.m.

\$40 for one child This is an after-hours event,
\$70 for two children not state regulated. Siblings
\$90 for three or more children and friends of SSLC children
*cash is preferred are welcome to attend.

RSVP using the QR code below
or the link on HiMama!



Jubal Chorus

The Sons of Jubal

Jubalheirs



Worship Concert

Thursday, May 11

7:00 pm

Instrumental & Vocal Ensemble Prelude begins 30 minutes earlier

The Church at Wieuca

3626 Peachtree Rd NE 30326 • 404-814-4460

No Charge -
A Love Offering
Will Be Received.

Presented by
Jubal
Ministries



Wednesday **CONNECT** Connections **GROW** **SERVE**

OUR LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONNECTIONS WILL BE MAY 17

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



graduate sunday

CONGRATS CLASS OF 2023!

If you have a student graduating High School or College this spring and would like them to be recognized, please contact Rev. Dylan Bowden or call the church office.



FISH FRY

Wednesday, May 24

at 6 p.m.

Call the church office to sign up
by Wednesday, May 17.



MAPPIN FUND

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

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR DETAILS.

MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 5:30pm Supper 6pm AWANA 6pm Youth Group 6:15pm Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	4 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 	5	6 Stepping Stones PARENTS NIGHT OUT 4pm - 9pm
7 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 12pm Lunch 6pm Youth Group	8	9	10 5:30pm Supper 6pm AWANA 6pm Youth Group 6:15pm Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	11 JUBAL CHORUS WORSHIP CONCERT at 6:30 pm at The Church of Wieuca	12	13 GATEWOOD SCHOOL GRADUATION
14  9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 6pm Youth Group	15	16	17 GATEWOOD SCHOOL LAST DAY LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT 5:30pm Supper 6pm AWANA 6pm Youth Group 6:15pm Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	18 ASCENSION DAY	19	20
21  GRADUATION SUNDAY 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 6pm Youth Group	22	23	24 FISH FRY AT 6pm	25	26 PUTNAM COUNTY SCHOOLS LAST DAY AND GRADUATION	27
28 PENTECOST 9:45am Sunday School 10:50am Worship 6pm Youth Group	29 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 	30	31			

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 7

Steve Benton

DEACON FAMILIES

Steve Culberson family
Charlotte Green
Luceil Harrison
Joseph Rainey family
Mike Reagin family
Steve Tubbs family
Sonny Turner family

DEACON FOR MAY 14

Kim Camp

DEACON FAMILIES

Steve Benton family
Brandon Cardwell family
Daryl Covington family
Jesse Covington
Frank Thompson family
Charles Winslette family
Warren Yates

BIRTHDAYS

05/04 - Luceil Harrison, Betty Pinholster
05/06 - Tommy Copelan
05/08 - Sheryl Hall
05/12 - Lois Schell

ANNIVERSARIES

05/06 - Barry and Nancy Chambers
05/08 - George and Felice Dissmeyer

THANK YOU

Thank you for the prayers, phone calls and cards in the passing of my brother.

From,

Jim and Margaret Howell

WORSHIP REPORT

<u>Sunday, April 23</u>	<u>108</u>
<u>Sunday, April 30</u>	<u>120</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

APRIL 23, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$6,305.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$176,668.42</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$162,865.90</u>

APRIL 30, 2023

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,392.26</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$6,018.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$187,060.68</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$168,883.90</u>

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



JOIN US FOR
Sunday Lunch
May 7, 2023

Following Morning Worship

**The church will provide
the meat, tea, and bread.**

**Please bring casseroles,
vegetables, salads,
and dessert.**