



## *From the Senior Pastor's Pen*

This summer I have found myself spending a good bit of time in the perennial garden that Madeline and I renovated and planted last year. Last year there was a lot of digging, moving things around, planting, watering, and hoping that what we put in the ground would take root. This year, we are beginning to enjoy the fruit of that work. Some things are blooming beautifully. Some are still filling in. And, of course, I am already thinking about what needs planted, moved, or tended now so that there will be even more beauty to enjoy next year.

Gardens have a way of teaching patience. So much of the work happens before there is much to see. Roots grow beneath the surface. Plants need time. A little watering here, a little weeding there, and slowly something begins to take shape.

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 3:6, “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.” That feels like a fitting word for this season in the life of our church. Through our *Forward in Faith* campaign, we have been planting and watering in very real ways. We are caring for the spaces where ministry happens now, while also investing in the church family and future generations who will worship, pray, learn, serve, and encounter Christ here in years to come.

I am grateful for the generosity, patience, and faithfulness you have shown throughout this process. Plans have now been finalized with contractors, and our sanctuary technology renovation is scheduled to begin in July. We will worship in the sanctuary through Sunday, July 12. On July 19, July 26, and likely August 2, worship will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you in advance for your flexibility during this time. Construction and renovation always bring some disruption, but they also remind us that we are tending something meaningful together. This is not just about updating a building. It is about stewarding a place where lives are shaped, where worship is offered, and where God continues to meet us as a church family.

As summer continues, I also hope you will stay connected through opportunities like Sips & Scripture, Sunday Suppers, worship, fellowship, and the simple rhythms of showing up for one another. These moments matter. They are part of how God grows us together. May we continue planting, watering, serving, giving, praying, and trusting God for the fruit of His kingdom.

In Christ's Love,

*Pastor Evan*



## FB&C News

Things have been great the last two and a half weeks at SBYCamp! We've had 7 kids connected with First Baptist attend SBYCamp so far this summer and 1 attend Indian Creek. So far this summer, we've had Junior Camp (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders), Teen Camp (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders), and Camp Good News (8-12 Year Olds). The weather has been unusual for this time of year. The last two weeks we have had to practice our emergency storm procedures and shelter with the campers both Teen Week and at Camp Good News, due to a tornado warning in the area. Thankfully there has been no damage and everyone was safe and accounted for, just a few scared kids. God was watching over us! It has also been unusually colder the past two weeks, which has been a nice change!

The campers have enjoyed all of the amazing activities at camp like archery, slingshots, tomahawk throwing, arial archery, fishing, blow darts, pickleball, 9-square, the new rock wall and much more! During teen week, we had a "late night" with trivia and a glow party that had glow in dark archery, rock wall, face paint, 9-square, and karaoke. During the day they have rotations where they have the opportunity to try some of these activities, plus make crafts, and experience outdoor education with our Executive Director, Chris. He shares the gospel with them through experiences like an animal show, using the colors of the animals, (and showing off our new baby opossum!), and making bottle rockets the campers get to shoot off into the field. Then they have small group in the chapel, where they get to slow down, open God's Word together and study with one of our camp volunteers.

My schedule each day starts with breakfast with the campers, then I am available if any of them need assistance with their morning devotions. I then meet with a couple of our Salteens. These are our teenage summer staff. I have the opportunity to have weekly spiritual check-ins with the salteens and the program staff. This is a time for them to bring any questions or concerns to me, and a time for me to make sure they are doing well and staying healthy. Once those are over, I have a chance to join the campers at some of their rotations and see or experience some of the awesome things they are doing. Then it's lunchtime! I get a short break, then I lead a small group bible study with the salteens every day. After that, I get to join in on some of the rotations again. We then move into free time for the campers. During free time, I am available for campers and cabin leaders to come and talk, which has led to some great conversations already this summer. I have heard campers profess Christ as their Savior, and I have prayed with others who are struggling with life situations at home. The Holy Spirit is moving in the hearts of these campers. After free time, dinner! After dinner, I meet with our program staff for spiritual check-ins, then I have time to prep for evening chapel. Then we have evening chapel, it begins with a time of worship in song and then I have the privilege of bringing the message each evening. Leah stays busy too. She helps in the kitchen, she runs the Quarry (the snack shack), and she leads an adulting class every day with the salteens. Teaching them basic life skills, like how to count back change or to fill out an envelope and write a letter.

We sometimes get asked, why all of these crazy, fun activities? We've had over 14 decisions for Christ already this summer that we know of, whether that be a first-time decision or a recommitment in their life. Plus, the hundreds of seeds that have been planted in the hearts of others. It all comes down to that. We want to share the Love of Jesus with as many kids as we can. We believe, Jesus Changes Everything. God is doing great things at camp. Thank you for your prayers. Blessings,

Pastor Tyler

# Around The Church ...

## Love Packaging



Love Packaging is a program that recycles Christian material to provide free Christian literature to pastors, missionaries, and teachers in developing countries with the aim of spreading the gospel. This would include Sunday school material, devotionals and inspiration materials, etc. There is now a box in the library downstairs for any donations.

Dortha has sent 3 shipments already and will be sending a new shipment soon so bring in any donations of Christian material. For any questions, contact Dortha Anderson, our librarian.

*Scan the QR code below to learn more about this organization.*



## Donate Your Vehicle to First Baptist Church

Contact the Church Office for more information



**SAVE THE DATE!**

## Church Retreat

Mark your 2027 calendar  
for May 14-16



## Sips & Scripture

Thursdays at 9:00am  
Eastbrook Lucabe

June 4 - July 30



## Around The Church ...

### Missionary Spotlight



Pray for Phil and Corenne Smith who serve in Brazil. They work with former street children who are cared for in group homes in Vitoria (Hope Mountain) and Campinas (City of Youth). Pray for the house parents of youth who are still getting used to taking baths, brushing teeth, and more importantly, following rules. These "parents" are asked to sign up for a 10-year commitment. It takes time to establish trust and relationships take time to build. Pray for them and the youth they serve. See more prayer requests and learn more about their work at Hope Unlimited for Children's website: [www.hopeunlimited.org](http://www.hopeunlimited.org) or scan the QR code below.



### Sunday Suppers

*Sign up in the Gathering Place for  
Sunday Suppers.*

*Dates are: June 28th, July 26th, and  
August 30th.*



Samaritans Purse: We will be doing Samaritan Purse Boxes again this fall, in time for Christmas. I'm suggesting that as you shop this summer, you pick up one or two small items each month to spread the cost out. Items to include might be t-shirts, school supplies, a plush stuffed toy, sox, miniature flashlights, puzzles, harmonicas, jump ropes, sturdy trucks, soccer balls and pump, hair accessories for the girls, caps, sunglasses, etc. Please do not buy toy guns, soap, toothpaste, food or candy. The boxes have already arrived and my drawer for the kids' items is rapidly filling up.  
WON'T YOU JOIN ME! -Liz Lipson

# First Baptist Church

## Pastoral Care Team

July 5th: Kerry & Alice Richmond  
July 12th: Paul & Carol Poe  
July 19th: Lyman & Corbie Snyder  
July 26th: Ron & Peggy Lane

## Emergency Responder Schedule

July 5th: Mike Compton  
July 12th: Jean Williams  
July 19th: Cole Bennett  
July 26th: Lindsay McIntosh

## FBC Apparel Store

We have an online store with FBC t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, hats, and bags for any who want to order. Scan the QR code!



## Medical Equipment Available for Loan



Durable medical Equipment is available at the church to lend to church family and friends as needed. Items available:

- Transport Wheel Chairs
- Bedside Commodes
- Elevated Commode Seats
- Rollator Walker
- Suction Handles for shower wall
- Walkers
- Canes
- Four Quad Canes
- Crutches
- Wheel Chairs

Please contact the church office or call Judy Rhude (812-764-9175) if any of this equipment is needed.

## Prayer Shawls

Prayer shawls will be available at the Gathering Place the 2nd Sunday of each month for any who would like to pick one up as an encouragement to someone. See Judy Alexander for any questions.



## Communion



We will celebrate Communion on Easter Sunday, July 5th. For those of you who join us for worship via live stream, we invite you to have something available to use for communion as we come to the Lord's Table together.



# Around The Church

## July Birthdays

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. ~ Deanna Glick     | 20. ~ Melissa Cross                            |
| 7. ~ Lucy Hogan       | 21. ~ Ruby Cunningham                          |
| 9. ~ Kalena King      | 23. ~ Katie Emmert                             |
| 10. ~ Kari Lovelace   | 24. ~ John Stafford, Hannah Eberts             |
| 11. ~ Scott Babb      | 28. ~ Liz Lipson, Alice Richmond               |
| 12. ~ Mary Greene     | 29. ~ Jane Seal                                |
| 14. ~ David Stehouwer | 30. ~ Allen Rea                                |
| 18. ~ Homer Ford      | 31. ~ Steven Pool, Carol Meyer & George Snider |

## The Body of Christ Prays For...

Julia Casey, Claude Wright, Dennis Orwin, Harold Simpson, Lyman & Corbie Snyder, Marsha Daugherty, Carol Burton, Rollin Strode, Mandy Reed, Bill & Lois Griffith, Janet Bailey, Dorothy Abney, Susan Carter, Tim Pickup, Priscilla & Roger Day, Bobbie & John Walker, Daryl & Dot McMath, Jenny Wilkerson, John & Liz Lipson, Jon Carlstrom, Marge Betz, Anita Burton, Dick & Beth Miller, Ramona Harlow, Anita Yancey, Allen Rea, Larry Alexander, and Roger & Ben Glick and all persons who are homebound & in nursing care centers.

## Looking Ahead to July

- 3- Office Closed- for 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- 5- Communion (9:30 am)
- 14- Church Council (5:30 pm)
- 15- Newsletter Deadline
- 22- Quarterly Congregational Meeting (6:00 PM)
- 26- Coffee Fellowship A-H (10:45 AM)

## Weekly:

- Prayer Shawl Group: Tuesdays at 11:00 am
- Prayer Group: Weds. @ 12:30 pm in Prayer Room
- Sips & Scripture: at Eastbrook Lucabe Thurs. @ 9:00 am through July 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Service: Sunday Morning - Worship 9:30 am**  
**(in-person worship & Live Stream)**

**2nd Hour Learning - following worship at 10:45 am**

## Live streaming available for Sunday Services

In addition to watching our streaming service on our website, the service is also streamed to Facebook, Roku and AppleTV. It is also sent internationally.



**Just Press Play**

Live Video Every Sunday at 9:30  
[firstbaptistcolumbus.org](http://firstbaptistcolumbus.org)

