



FIRST BAPTIST
COLUMBUS
JOIN OUR *Family* OF FAITH

Rev. Evan Guse, Senior Pastor
Tyler Griffin, Associate Pastor
Hannah Eberts, Worship Director

From the Senior Pastor's Pen

Most of us are willing to follow God, though we would appreciate knowing a little more about the route. We make plans, organize our calendars, and think through what needs to happen next. Then we pray for God to lead us, hoping His direction will look something like what we already had in mind.

As we walked through Acts this summer, we watched Paul discover that even good plans can change. He wanted to share the gospel in places where people needed to hear it. There was nothing wrong with his intentions. Yet the Spirit redirected him, and Paul had to move forward without knowing everything that would happen next.

Our own lives rarely unfold exactly as we expect. A change in our health, a concern for someone we love, or a responsibility we never anticipated can leave us wondering what faithfulness looks like now. Sometimes we can do something about the situation. Sometimes we have to acknowledge how much is beyond our control.

The familiar Serenity Prayer gives us words for that: *“God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.”*

Acceptance can be difficult, especially when what we cannot change matters deeply to us. It does not mean we stop caring or pretend something painful is okay. It means entrusting to God what we cannot carry ourselves.

And then there is courage. There may be a conversation we need to have, an apology we need to offer, or a step we have been putting off. We can spend so much time wishing circumstances were different that we overlook the good we are able to do right where we are.

We need God’s wisdom for both. We need time in prayer, attention to Scripture, and people who will help us listen carefully. Our current series, *The Bible Says What?*, invites us into that kind of humility. We are reminded to take Scripture seriously enough to wrestle with it, and humbly enough to let it wrestle with us. We come ready to learn, including when what we hear challenges something we thought we already understood.

I am grateful that we have opportunities to practice this together at First Baptist. Around the tables on Wednesday evenings, in our Thursday morning Bible studies, during Second Hour on Sundays, or in a simple hallway conversation, we can bring our questions and encourage one another. Often, a conversation with someone who has walked a similar road helps us recognize a next step we could not see on our own.

As October begins, I encourage you to keep this prayer somewhere you will see it. Pray it slowly. Consider what you need to place in God’s hands and where He may be asking you to act. We may not know the whole route ahead. But we know the One who calls us to follow, and I am grateful we get to walk together.

In Christ’s Love,

Pastor Evan



FBC News

I don't know about you, but I definitely felt the changing of seasons this week. On Sunday, I felt the sweltering heat, but come Monday morning, there was colder weather and a light drizzle of cool rain. There is something very refreshing to me when fall arrives. After months of summer heat, we finally step outside one morning and feel that coolness in the air. The days grow shorter, the leaves slowly change from vibrant green to shades of red, orange, and gold. Then, before you know it, we find ourselves reaching in the back of our closets, looking for our coats that have been hanging untouched since last winter.

The changing of seasons remind me of the words of Ecclesiastes 3:1: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." We can see this truth displayed all around us. Summer doesn't last forever, and neither will fall. God beautifully designed creation with seasons of growth, change, rest, and renewal. I have noticed how our lives can follow a similar pattern.

There are seasons of life that are warm and comfortable. Everything's going well, prayers are being answered, and the path ahead seems clear. There are other seasons that bring uncertainty. The plans we made change. Our relationships change. Our health changes. Children grow up and move away. The people we love come and go. Sometimes we find ourselves in a season we never expected or never would have chosen.

But while the seasons of life change, our God does not. Hebrews 13:8 reminds us, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." The same God who walked with us through yesterday's season is already present in the one we're entering today. The circumstances of our life may change, but He does not. His faithfulness endures. His promises are eternal. His love for us is everlasting.

Maybe that is one of the gifts that comes with fall. Every changing leaf can be a small reminder that change is part of God's creation. However, change does not mean that God has left us. In fact, sometimes God uses a changing season to prepare you and me for something new. When a tree releases its leaves, it isn't finished, it is just preparing for what comes next.

So as the temperatures cool and the leaves begin to fall, take a moment to consider the season of life you are in right now. Maybe it is a season of joy and celebration. Maybe it is a season of waiting, uncertainty, or loss. Is God asking you to let go of something you've been holding onto? Whatever season you may find yourself in, remember this: the seasons will change, but the One who walks with you never will.

My prayer, as we enjoy the beauty of fall, may we learn to trust the God of every season. Being grateful for where He has brought us, living faithfully where He has placed us, and being hopeful for where He leads us next.

"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." -2 Corinthians 13:14

Pastor Tyler

Around The Church ...



ABWM
Women's Day
OCTOBER 10
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
here at FBC!
Cost: **\$25** per person
Register at Gathering Place *by Oct 1st*
We can't wait to see you there! ♥

90th Birthday Celebration!

Everyone is invited to our open house for Mom (Carol Burton) as we celebrate her 90th birthday. The open house will be held on October 24th from 2:00-4:00 PM in the church fellowship hall. Come for snacks, fellowship, and wish mom happy birthday.

-Deanna

Walk with Jesus in His
First-Century World

LIGHT Women's Bible Study

Join us on Thursdays
at 9 am in the
chapel.

Lifeway women



Save the Date!

Mark your 2027 calendar for May 14-16 for our next Churchwide Retreat at SBYC! It will be an event you won't want to miss!

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.

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, and Wheel Chairs.

Please contact the church office.

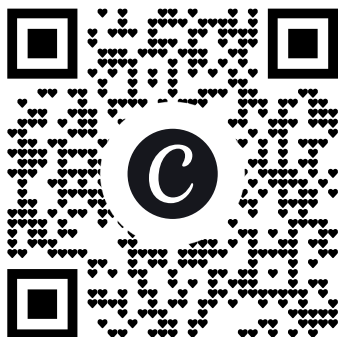
Around The Church ...



The deadline to return your shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child is November 16th. The Church will pay half of the shipping cost if needed, just return \$5.00 with your shoebox.

Items not allowed are : SOAP; candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans. **Boxes are available in the Gathering Place.**

For gift ideas to fill your shoebox, scan the QR code, or go the the website: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>



Update: Many thanks to those who have supported FBC in this new program to share the love of Christ with families in need through your service and donations.

During the month of September, we have not had the opportunity to serve any families but I am sure there will be more needs in the future. If you would like to donate to this effort, mark your envelope "CarePortal" It will be used for much needed items.

AT THE TABLE

MEETING GOD IN THE MEALS OF SCRIPTURE

MEN OF FAITH BIBLE STUDY



THURSDAYS AT 9:00 AM



STARTING SEPTEMBER 10



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. For any questions, contact Dortha Anderson, our librarian.

Other News...

PSALM 23

Wednesdays begin September 23
Meal 5:00 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm

Wednesday Night Dinner & Bible Study

Join us every Wednesday evening for a meal at 5:00 pm followed by Bible study. There will be a free-will donation taken every evening to offset the cost of the meal. All are encouraged to attend!

Candy needed for Trunk or Treat!

Drop off in the box near the kitchen.



SAFE FUN
SWEET TREATS

TRUNK OR TREAT

FAMILY • FUN • COMMUNITY

WHEN

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 31**
5:30 – 8:00 PM

WHERE

**FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH**
3300 Fairlawn Drive
Columbus, IN 47203



CANDY
& TREATS



DECORATED
TRUNKS



FUN
FOR ALL AGES



FRIENDS
& COMMUNITY



*Come in costume
and bring the whole family!*

First Baptist Church

Pastoral Care Team

Oct. 4th: Kerry & Alice Richmond
Oct. 11th: Dortha Anderson & Juanita Bush
Oct. 18th: Paul & Carol Poe
Oct. 25th: Ron & Peggy Lane

Emergency Responder Schedule

Oct. 4th: Cole Bennett
Oct. 11th: Judy Rhude
Oct. 18th: Jean Williams
Oct. 25th: Judy Rhude



**FBC Library
on Wheels**

*A cart filled with library books
will be available for check out
each week in the Gathering
Place.*

***There will also be a special
section of children's books!***

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!*



**FIRST BAPTIST
COLUMBUS**
JOIN OUR family OF FAITH

SCAN ME



Check out our new
Online Store!
Scan the QR Code
or go to our
website!

College Students

If you have or know of a college student from FBC, please contact the office with their address. secretary@fbccolumbus.org.

Abigail Circle

Abigail Circle will be held on Tuesday, October 27th at 6:30 pm. All women are encouraged to attend!

October is World Mission Offering Month



Partner in God's work
around the world.

world
mission
offering

Communion



We will celebrate Communion on Sunday, October 4th. 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

October Birthdays

2. ~ Larry Calfee
6. ~ Lois Brondyke, Linda Foster,
Joyce Orwin
7. ~ Dave Seal

9 ~ David Reed
10. ~ Norma Arnold
11. ~ Ro Whittington
21. ~ Carol Burton,

23. ~ Susan Carter
24. ~ Madeline Guse
29. ~ Scarlett Carlstrom
31. ~ Lois Griffith

The Body of Christ Prays For...

Carolyn Baker, Julia Casey, Dennis Orwin, Harold Simpson, Lyman & Corbie Snyder, Forest & Marsha Daugherty, Carol Burton, Rollin Strode, Mandy Reed, Bill & Lois Griffith, Janet Bailey, Dorothy Abney, Susan Carter, Paula Pickup, Priscilla & Roger Day, Bobbie & John Walker, 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 October

4- Communion (9:30 am)
10- ABWM Women's Day (9-3 pm)
15- Newsletter Deadline
20- Church Council (5:30 pm)
24- 90th Birthday Celebration/Carol Burton
25- Coffee Fellowship A-H (10:45 am)
27- Abigail Circle (6:30 PM)
31- Trunk or Treat (5:30-8:00 pm)

Weekly:

- Prayer Shawl Group: Tuesdays at 11:00 am
- Prayer Group: Weds. @ 12:30 pm in Prayer Room
- Wednesday Meal & Bible Study at 5:00 -6:45 pm
- Choir Practice @ 7:00 pm
- LIGHT Ladies Bible Study: Thurs. at 9:00 am
- Men of Faith Bible Study: Thurs. at 9:00 am

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

