



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

As we move into November, I find myself thinking about all the people who have helped make First Baptist the church it is today. People who taught Sunday school, sang in the choir, prepared meals, prayed through difficult seasons, and quietly gave what they could, many of them well over 100 years ago. They were responding to God and caring for the people around them. What a blessing that we have the opportunity to do the same.

On Sunday, November 8, we will observe Commitment Sunday, bringing our 2027 Estimate of Giving Cards and ministry service forms. These help us prepare our ministry budget and connect people with opportunities to serve. The question before each of us is: How might God be inviting me to invest in the life and ministry of this church in this season?

Our financial gifts support the ongoing work of worship, discipleship, caring for one another, and serving our neighbors. As our ministry and staffing have expanded, the support needed has grown too. If you are able to increase your giving in 2027, I encourage you to prayerfully consider doing so. If maintaining your current giving is already a stretch, please know how grateful we are for your love and faithfulness. Every gift matters.

Stewardship also includes our time, abilities, prayers, and presence. An afternoon helping with a project, a phone call, a meal for someone who is struggling, or simply showing up can become an offering God uses in ways we never fully see.

There are many opportunities to participate. Men of Faith and the L.I.G.H.T. Women's Bible Study help us grow together in Scripture. Wednesday dinners and studies offer time to reconnect, and choir provides a meaningful way to serve through music. There are places to work with children and youth, offer hospitality, and care for our community. If you are wondering where you might fit, we would love to help you find a place to begin.

Our current sermon series, *The Bible Says What?*, invites us to bring our questions to Scripture and allow God to challenge and shape us. As we read carefully, pray honestly, and listen for the voice of Jesus, we need one another. Your presence matters.

There is much to celebrate. Your generosity through *Forward in Faith* has helped improve our worship space as we also look toward refreshing our children's ministry areas. And in 2027, we will celebrate 175 years of ministry at First Baptist! Plans are taking shape for a year of remembering, worshiping, sharing stories, and welcoming our community. I am grateful for the history we share and excited about where God is leading us.

As you complete your giving card and service form, pray about your place in that continuing story. What has God entrusted to you? Where might He be inviting you to share it? Thank you for the many ways you love this church family. I am grateful to be one of your pastors and to walk into this next year with you.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Evan



FBC News

Leah and I recently took a trip to Washington DC. It was my first time visiting, and we were able to pack in many of the sights, museums, and tours while there. One interesting excursion we took was a trip up into the Washington Monument. If you have never been, you take a quick elevator ride up to the 500-foot level Observation Deck. Here, you are able to look out of 8 small windows, 2 on each side of the Monument. This gives you a bird's-eye view of the National Mall, Washington DC, and all of the surrounding area. It is quite an exceptional view on a clear day. You are able to see things from an entirely different point of view.

The grand buildings don't seem as grand. Small homes line the tiny streets. The cars look like matchbox toys. And people on the streets and walking in the parks seem just a little bigger than ants. From way up there, it all seemed so small. We work so hard for earthly pleasures that will one day fade away. It seems we are reaching for higher and higher things. I don't know what that is for you, it could be a promotion, a bigger home, or the newest car. Yet in reality, the higher we go, if we take a moment to look down, we might just see that there was only one thing worth striving for. Jesus tells His disciples in the Sermon on the Mount:

"Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desire of your heart will also be." -Matthew 6:19-21

It is easy to get caught up in the things of this world. We spend so much of our lives chasing after things that, in the grand scheme of eternity, really don't matter all that much. We convince ourselves that if we could just have a little more money, a little bigger house, or a little more recognition, then we would finally be satisfied. But the problem is, there is always something more to chase. Jesus reminds us that the things we treasure reveal the condition of our hearts. There is nothing wrong with having a nice home, a good job, or enjoying the blessings God has given us. But when those things become the focus of our lives, we can easily lose sight of what matters most.

Standing 500 feet above Washington, D.C., I was reminded of just how small the things of this world can seem when seen from a different point of view. And I couldn't help but wonder how differently we might live if we learned to see our lives from an eternal perspective. Would we spend less time worrying about what we don't have and more time thanking God for what we do? Would we spend less time chasing success and more time pursuing a relationship with Christ? Would we be more generous with our resources, more intentional with our time, and more willing to love the people God has placed in our lives?

One day, everything we have worked so hard to accumulate will be left behind. Our possessions, our accomplishments, and our earthly recognition will eventually fade away. But the love we share, the lives we touch, and the ways we faithfully serve Christ can have an impact that reaches into eternity. Perhaps the greatest lesson I learned from standing at the top of the Washington Monument wasn't how small everything looked from above, but how easily we can lose sight of what truly matters when we're standing right in the middle of it all.

So, as we go about our busy lives, may we remember to occasionally change our perspective. May we learn to hold loosely to the things of this world and cling tightly to the promises of God. Because in the end, it's not how high we climb in this world that matters, but how closely we walk with Jesus along the way.

Christ's Blessings,

Pastor Tyler



Around The Church ...



Church Camp Offering

During the month of November we will be collecting for both the Southeastern Baptist Youth Camp and Indian Creek Baptist Camp to support their vision plans for expanding their camp ministries. Mark your envelopes "Youth Camp."



Christmas Market

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for this year's Christmas Market, taking place on Saturday, November 21st (the Saturday before Thanksgiving) from 10-3 pm. To have a successful Christmas Market we need your participation!

Additionally, if you have friends who are artists/crafters who might like to participate, please have them contact Jerald Hatton for any questions. Applications are available at the Gathering Place or through email.

Around The Church ...



The deadline to return your shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child is November 8th.

The Church will pay half of the shipping cost if needed, just return \$5.00 with your shoebox.

For gift ideas to fill your shoebox, go to:

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>

LIGHT

Ladies Bible Study Schedule

Study of Philemon

- Nov 5th Session 1
- Nov 12th Session 2
- Nov 19th Session 3

Dec 3rd

Craft Day for Pastoral Care /
Christmas Coffee & Treats

Advent study

- Dec 10th Session 1
- Dec 17th Session 2



CarePortal

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 October we were able to serve 3 children with some of their basic needs thanks to you. If you would like to donate to this effort, mark your envelope "CarePortal" It will be used for much needed items.

Student Spotlight

For Those Away at School

Some of our FBC students are away at school and we would love you to join us in encouraging them through a card shower. This month we are featuring Stillman Whittington. Send your cards to the address below.

Stillman Whittington
McCallie School
500 Dobbs Ave
Chattanooga TN 37404

BIBLE STUDY

FACES OF CHRISTMAS

Men of Faith Study

BEGINNING NOVEMBER 19



THURSDAYS

9:00 A.M.



Other News...

Bethlehem Lights

DRIVE THROUGH LIGHT DISPLAY & LIVE NATIVITY



SBYCAMP.COM/BETHLEHEM

Bethlehem Lights
CHRISTMAS MARKET
VENDOR FAIR

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
DECEMBER 4 & 5
6 - 8 PM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
DECEMBER 11 & 12
6 - 8 PM

VISIT
SBYCAMP.COM/BETHLEHEM
TO APPLY

SBYCAMP
GINGERBREAD SHOWDOWN
BUILD • DECORATE • COMPETE

ENTER TODAY
sbycamp.com/gingerbread

Other News...

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to donate flowers in commemoration of a loved one during the Advent season, sign up at the Gathering Place starting November 15th.

The deadline will be Dec. 13th.

See Deanna Glick with any questions.

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!

Thank You

First Baptist,
You have served at total of 11 kids through CarePortal! Thank you for saying "yes" to stepping in to hard places with families to provide hope through tangible support. We love walking alongside you as you help change the trajectory of kids' lives in Bartholomew and Johnson counties!

Grace & Peace,
Laura Archibald & Hands of Hope

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!

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.

First Baptist Church

Pastoral Care Team

Nov. 1st: Bob & Jean Langdon
Nov. 8th: Jim & Linda Reid
Nov. 15th: Heidi Jones & Staphanie Olson
Nov. 22nd: Kerry & Alice Richmond
Nov. 29th: Paul & Carol Poe

Emergency Responder Schedule

Nov. 1st: Cole Bennett
Nov. 8th: Jean Williams
Nov. 15th: Judy Rhude
Nov. 22nd: Lindsay McIntosh
Nov. 29th: Mike Compton



Thanksgiving Fellowship

Join us on Sunday, November 22nd at 11:30 am for our Thanksgiving Fellowship. Sign up to bring a warm side, salad, or dessert or just let us know you are attending.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Communion



We will celebrate Communion on Sunday, November 1st. 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

November Birthdays

- | | | |
|--|----------------------|---|
| 4. ~ Teresa Arbuckle | 12. ~ Carolyn Baker | 21. ~ LuAnn Harlow |
| 5. ~ Jean Langdon | 13. ~ Norma Compton | 22. ~ Janet Bailey, Rob Lilly,
Landon McIntosh |
| 7. ~ Kerry Brockhagen | 15. ~ Bob Hoffman | 23. ~ David Emmert |
| 8. ~ Lynne Lovelace, Alberta Ruble | 16. ~ Betty Harrison | 25. ~ Dennis Adams |
| 10. ~ Reagan Babb, Sharon
Fulkerson | 17. ~ Martha Whedon | 27. ~ Joanne Sublette |
| 11. ~ Sue Putterill | 18. ~ Bill Griffith | 28. ~ Gail Fields |

The Body of Christ Prays For...

Family of Susan Carter, Family of Donna Crim (Mother of Laura Andrews), 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, 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 November

- 1- Communion (9:30 am)
- 8- Commitment Sunday
- 15- Newsletter Deadline
- 17- Church Council (5:30 pm)
- 21- Christmas Market (10-3 pm)
- 22- Thanksgiving Fellowship (11:30 am)
- 24- Abigail Circle (6:30 pm)
- 26 & 27- Church Office Closed/Thanksgiving
- 29- No Coffee Fellowship

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



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