

**FROM THE PASTOR**

**Grace and Peace to You: Wednesday Vespers Bible Study**

I would like to extend a personal invitation for all of you to join our Wednesday night Vespers service as we pray together and make our way through Paul's Letter to the Philippians. About forty of us have been gathering in Burch Hall for prayer and Bible study. Paul's letter begins as do most of his letters - with a very particular greeting meant to unite those to whom he is writing: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

"Grace" is a modification of a Roman greeting. "Peace" is a common Jewish and Oriental greeting. So with "grace and peace" Paul combines eastern and western forms of greeting into a global greeting. Grace is the absolutely free, spontaneous, unmerited favor and kindness of God. It is the generosity and joy and forgiveness of God. Peace, in the Hebrew "shalom," is a word that seeks to bestow upon another every kind of good. Everything Paul does he begins with "grace and peace."

What about you? When have you been stabbed in the back? When has your heart been broken? Who has hurt you? What relationships in your life right now need grace and peace? What if your posture toward them was "grace and peace"? What if you spoke words of grace and peace in those painful moments? What if, before you slander or gossip, before you say something mean or hurtful - you say "grace and peace to you."

Have you spoken harshly, rudely to someone? Do you need to rectify your behavior? What keeps you from speaking grace and peace into those relationships?

What if we began every conversation with the greeting "grace and peace to you"? It might feel a little awkward. But I am certain it would change the world of relationships and how we speak to one another. You can't say to someone "grace and peace to you" and then light into them! If you don't say "grace and peace" out loud, you could at least whisper it to yourself.

Where in your heart do you need to hear grace and peace? It is so easy to forget that God clothes our shame with grace and peace. Do you need to hear it again? Such grace and peace come from God and flow through us as fruit of the Holy Spirit. This is about being given over to the grace of God to such an extent that you will be so deeply immersed in God's grace and peace that you are grace and peace. Join us for Wednesday Vespers as Paul teaches us how to live in grace and peace.

**Members in Care Facilities**

Maple Court (Tifton): Virginia Hughes & Pruitt Health (Ocilla): Drew Fountain

**Homebound Members – Fitzgerald**

June & Don Morris

**Homebound Members – Out of Town & State**

Lois Eppes – Middleburg, FL & Lois Freeman – Newnan, GA

**Prayers for Our People**

*We are praying for you and all that God will do for you.*

Let us pray for: Denise Bowen, Carolyn Brown, Prentiss Brown, Lynn Bryant, Polly Davis, Wendy Dix, Joni Wiggins Fox, Gene Mason, Allen Maye, Don Morris,

June Morris, Heather Pigg, Jane Stuart, Gage Stubbs, Kelly Sumner, Brenda Wiggins, Donald Wiggins, Debra Weil



Please check your summer calendars for dates and sign up NOW for our Summer Youth Mission Camp which will be June 11-14. A \$50 deposit for Summer Youth Camp is due on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Also, sign up to participate on Youth Sunday

which will be on March 12<sup>th</sup> also. I hope you will all be at Sunday School this Sunday morning at 10am and stay for worship at 11am!



This week, the choir will sing *Think About His Love* as our special music. Orchestra and handbells will play with the hymns. The Handbell Choir will rehearse at 9:15am Sunday morning to practice a song to be played the following Sunday on February 5<sup>th</sup>. All handbell players should receive a text from me this week concerning ringing this special song for Communion. ALSO, if you are interested in joining the choir or handbell choir, give me call if you have any questions. See You Sunday as we lead through music in worship.



**Sanctuary Flowers**

The flowers in the Sanctuary this Sunday, January 29, 2023, are dedicated to the glory of God and placed in loving memory of James Echols by Ellene Echols.

**Sympathy**

We express our Christian sympathy to the family of , Mrs. Sarah J. Garrison, who passed away on January 16, 2023.

**Ms. Carly's Corner for KIDS**

**We're going to Passport Kid's Camp!**

**When:** Sun-Wed, July 16-19

**Where:** Rock Eagle 4-H Center

**Age:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade (Any questions, please let me know.)

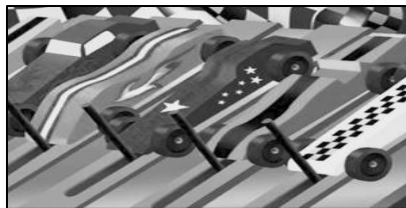
To secure our spot, please let me know by next Sunday January 29th if your child wants to attend. (I will have to make a non-refundable deposit on 2/1/2023).

\*Scholarships are available for those who need them financially. Any other questions, please let me know.

**RA RACING NIGHT**

**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8TH, 2023 AT 6PM**

**IN THE GYMNASIUM**



All ages are invited to join us to support the RA Racing night on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. GAs will also be selling pizza, drinks, and snacks as well. Join us for a great night of fun to support our kids! (Mission Friends will NOT meet on

this night due to the race. All Mission Friends and Family are invited to attend the race!)

**EACH WEEK:**

→**Children's Choir:** Every Wednesday at 5:30pm in the Children's Choir room above the Breezeway.

→**Mission Friends, GAs and RAs:** 6pm every Wednesday!

→**Sunday School:** 10am every Sunday!

**January/February Sunday Children's Church Volunteers:**

January 29.....Carla and Clint Revels

February 5.....Jane Szoke, Kate Phillips and Caroline Spivey

February 12.....Kathleen Cook and Brie Henderson

February 19.....Trista and Ryan Clemons

February 26.....Rebecca Dawson and Jennifer Wiley

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

April 8 - Easter Pancake Breakfast and Egg Hunt

May 14 - Children's Sunday

July 16-19 - Children's Passport Camp (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade)

Detach this form along the dotted line

**HELP US GROW IN FAITHFULNESS**

Dear Family of Faith: We want to hear from you. As a church we desire to be faithful to God's calling in Scripture and the Spirit's leading among us as we seek to worship God, follow Jesus, grow in Christlikeness, and serve our community and the world in Christ's name. Does worship enable you to offer yourself to God? What can we do to better nurture your relationship with God? What opportunities to serve would you like to have available? How can we improve? We want to know how you feel about how we are doing across all ministries, practices, areas, phases, and aspects of our church. We are also working to update staff job descriptions and perform staff evaluations that have been neglected in recent years. We would appreciate your help in doing so. This feedback will be kept private and reviewed by a small committee of Deacons, where the responses will be compiled and reported as appropriate.

These compliments, concerns, and comments can be turned in to the church office by way of a box labeled "Feedback" in the Narthex on Sundays, or mailed to:

**First Baptist Church c/o FEEDBACK  
P.O. Box 367 Fitzgerald, GA 31750**

Thank you! David Herlovich, Deacon Chairman

## CHURCH CALENDAR

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

Daily Scripture: *1 Corinthians 1.10-18. Psalm 27.1, 4-9*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

Daily Scripture: *Matthew 4.12-23. Psalm 27.1, 4-9*

5:30 PM.....Children's Choir\*

6:00 PM.....Mission Friends, GAs and RAs\*

6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)\*

6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Burch Hall)\*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

Daily Scripture: *Micah 6.1-8. Psalm 15*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Daily Scripture: *1 Corinthians 1.18-31. Psalm 15*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

Daily Scripture:

7:00 AM-11:00 AM.....Love Box Distribution Day (FBC Gym)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

EPIPHANY 5

9:15 AM.....Adult Handbell Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM.....Sunday School\*

11:00 AM.....Worship Service\*

4:00 PM.....Women's Bible Study (Mann Hall)

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

Daily Scripture: *Micah 6.1-8. Psalm 15*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

Daily Scripture: *1 Corinthians 1.18-31. Psalm 15*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Daily Scripture: *Matthew 5.1-12. Psalm 15*

12:00 PM.....Prayer Garden Meeting (Burch Hall)

5:30 PM.....Children's Choir\*

6:00 PM.....Mission Friends, GAs and RAs\*

6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)\*

6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Burch Hall)\*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Daily Scripture: *Isaiah 58.1-12. Psalm 112.1-10*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Daily Scripture: *1 Corinthians 2.1-16. Psalm 112.1-10*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Daily Scripture: *Matthew 5.13-20. Psalm 112.1-10*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

EPIPHANY 6

9:15 AM.....Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal\*

10:00 AM.....Sunday School\*

11:00 AM.....Worship Service\*

4:00 PM.....Women's Bible Study (Mann Hall)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Daily Scripture: *Isaiah 58.1-12. Psalm 112.1-10*

12:00 PM.....50+ Club/Young at Heart Luncheon (Burch Hall)

1:00-6:00 PM.....American Red Cross Blood Drive (Gym)

4:15 PM.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Daily Scripture: *1 Corinthians 2.1-16. Psalm 112.1-10*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

No Gym usage (racetrack will be set up for the RA race on Wednesday)

Daily Scripture: *Matthew 5.13-20. Psalm 112.1-10*

5:30 PM.....Children's Choir\*

6:00 PM.....ANNUAL RA PINEWOOD DERBY RACE DAY\*

Adult Vespers Canceled: Everyone is encouraged to come watch these young lads and crusaders race their cars to victory!

6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)\*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Daily Scripture: *Deuteronomy 30.15-20. Psalm 119.1-8*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Daily Scripture: *1 Corinthians 3.1-9. Psalm 119.1-8*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Daily Scripture: *Matthew 5.21-37. Psalm 119.1-8*

\*Nursery Staff available for these events.

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, closed all day Friday

8:30am-12:15pm (12:15-1:30 closed for lunch & office errands) 1:30pm-5pm

## Our Stewardship Review

Budget Report for 1/24/23:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Weekly Budget Required.....                                       | \$12,574.13 |
| Weekly Budget Received for 1/15/23 – 1/21/23.....                 | \$13,951.63 |
| Monthly Budget Received.....                                      | \$54,487.90 |
| MTD Budget Received.....  | \$36,777.71 |
| YTD Budget Requirement.....                                       | \$54,487.90 |
| YTD Budget Giving Received.....                                   | \$36,777.71 |
| YTD Budget Expenses.....  | \$42,016.67 |
| Prayer Garden Budget Requirement.....                             | \$38,000.00 |
| Prayer Garden Budget Giving Received.....                         | \$20,500.00 |
| Special Gifts (Non-Budget) for the week of 1/15/23 – 1/21/23..... | \$987.46    |

## Are You Being Called to Refugee Ministry?

Join the Q & A Information Meeting

Monday, January 30, 6:00-7:00 pm

The Jay Inn (309 South Lee Street, Fitzgerald)

## Church Staff

Pastor..... Greg Pope

Minister of Music & Youth..... Blane Jacobs

Administrative Assistant..... Dana Luckie

Director of Children's Activities..... Carly Harper

Custodian..... Jeffrey Morgan

Housekeeping..... Antoinette Hill

Church Organist..... Barbara Jacobs

Church Pianist..... Susan Spivey

Contact us at 229-423-4367 or by email at [fbcfbc@fbcfbc.com](mailto:fbcfbc@fbcfbc.com). You can also check out church information and activities on our website [www.fbcfitz.com](http://www.fbcfitz.com).

## First Baptist Church

P. O. Box 367

(402 S. Merrimac Drive)

Fitzgerald, GA 31750

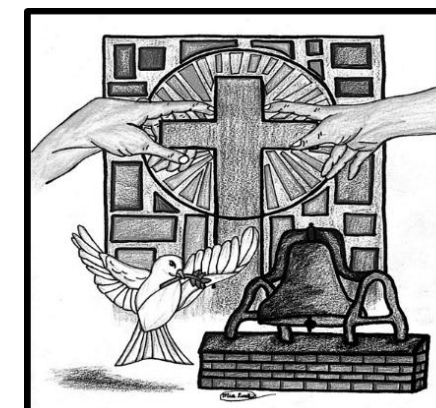
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# First Baptist Church

OF FITZGERALD, GA.

*First Baptist Church is a loving and caring Christian community seeking to extend the open hand of God's grace to meet physical and spiritual needs through worship, education, ministry, fellowship, and spiritual nurturing.*

## Wednesday Vespers 6pm Burch Hall Sunday School 10am Worship Service 11am Sanctuary

Sunday January 29 - The Fifth Sunday in Epiphany

Scripture: Micah 6:1-8, Psalm 15,

1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon: *Blessed Are Those*

Sunday February 5 - The Sixth Sunday in Epiphany

Scripture: Isaiah 58.1-12, Psalm 112.1-10

1 Corinthians 2.1-16, Matthew 5.13-20

Sermon: *What Might God What Most From Us*

The Celebration of Holy Communion

Sunday February 12 - The Seventh Sunday in Epiphany

Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:15-20. Psalm 119:1-8,

1 Corinthians 3.1-9, Matthew 5.21-37

Sermon: *The Game of Life*

A Gideon Testimony

Wednesday Vespers - 6:00pm in Burch Hall

Bible Study Through Paul's Letter to the Philippians

"Joy Beyond the Walls of the World" (January-May)

This week: Philippians 1.7-11

## Love Out Loud Food Box Distribution Day

Saturday, January 28

Anyone that ordered their box through  
First Baptist Church ONLY, your NEW  
PICK-UP TIME will begin around 8:30-8:45a.

Volunteers please be there for the time  
that you signed up.