

FROM THE PASTOR

Affirming Our Faith: We are called to be the church . . .

We continue to dive into the meaning of our Affirmation of Faith. I have noticed your voices getting louder as we say the Affirmation each week. I pray it's becoming a deeper part of you.

In our reflections we have arrived at the second part of the Affirmation. The first part affirmed our belief in God and how God is made known through creation and Jesus, and how God works in us and others by the Spirit.

The second part begins: *We are called to be the church . . .* We are not a social club or a political party at prayer. We are the church, the "called out" ones of God, God's people, the Body of Christ. Over the next several Sundays we will be reminded of what it means to be the church.

This Sunday, May 14, we will celebrate the children among us on Children's Sunday as they lead us in worship. We will be reminded of all that goes on in our church's ministry to children. We will also enter into covenant with Jad and Erin Dixon in the dedication of their son Bo.

Sunday, May 21 is Graduate Sunday. Our high school graduates will lead us in worship as we celebrate the milestone of their graduation and the role the church has played in their growing up.

Sunday, May 28, is our Memorial Day service as we remember those who died in service to our country, honor those who have served our country in the past and are serving now as members of the military and as First Responders. We will offer our thanks to God for their service and sacrifice.

On Sunday, June 4, we will celebrate the biblical Christian calendar festival of Pentecost, marking the birthday of the church. As part of our worship we will ordain two people to the church's deacon ministry: Shane Sapp and Zach Sheppard. Following worship we will gather for lunch and church conference in Burch Hall.

On Sunday, June 11, we will see what the Bible has to say about what God wants us to do as a church. We will also celebrate the baptism of Logan Clemons. Our youth will depart that morning for their summer Mission trip.

Sunday, June 18, will be Holy Humor Sunday. We will hear about the most unusual Father's Day ever - when 100 year old Abraham and his 90 year old wife Sarah become parents for the first time and fall over laughing at the wild and crazy God we worship and follow.

And on Sunday, June 25, I will be on vacation in Louisiana. Our former pastor and gifted preacher, Dr. Jerry Mahan, will return to the First Baptist pulpit.

Make sure you join us as we celebrate our life together as church!

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: Rachel Bishop, Zeke Bishop, Denise Bowen, Carolyn Brown, Prentiss Brown, Lynn Bryant, Polly Davis, Wendy Dix, John Donahue, Caroline Kate Eckles, Joni Wiggins Fox, Stephen Martin, Gene Mason, Billy McEachern, Don Morris, June Morris, Buddy Prescott, Troy Roberts, Gage Stubbs, Kelly Sumner, Sarah Stevens, Farise Taylor, Brenda Wiggins, Donald Wiggins, Debra Weil



IMPORTANT WEEK!!! We hope to have a working outline of our Summer Youth Activities ready to share at WNL this week. ALSO.. I plan to mail out your summer youth mission camp final information by the end of the week. Please be on the lookout so that if you have any questions or if your plans have changed and you do not plan to go to camp, you can let me know ASAP. Hope to see you at Wednesday Night Live, Sunday School and Worship this week.



If you are a GRADUATE and have not turned in your pictures or total participating in the graduate meal, please contact me ASAP. You will receive a letter from me early next week that includes all your information for Graduate Sunday as well as the order of worship. If you have any questions, please give me a call. Junior class and parents, don't forget we decorate on Saturday, May 20th and on Sunday, May 21st, we need all Juniors and one parent to help serve and clean up.



Every Sunday morning during the summer school break, we will be having a SUMMER CHOIR! Choir members will be asking folks to join us and **EVERYONE** is invited to sing with us. We will be singing a familiar hymn from the hymnbook each Sunday so **EVERYONE** will know the songs. Our first Sunday will be June 4th!! More Details Next Week! Also, we will have a few weeks off from singing and playing because of our Children's Sunday this week and Graduate Sunday the following week. We will return on Memorial Day to sing and present our music for that very special day. That also begins our Casual Sundays so plan to dress in your red, white or blue and come sing with us. Each year, the Memorial Day worship service means so much to so many in our church and community. Thanks for continue our tradition of recognizing those who sacrifice so much for so many.



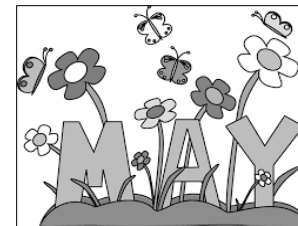
Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this Sunday, May 14, 2023, are dedicated to the glory of God and placed in loving memory of Myrtle Harris and James Harris by Barbara Harris and family.

What's Going on at FBC in May

May Ushers: Billy McEachern, Mike Ellis, Hank Cook, Jim Burke, Stewart Carswell, Nathan Carswell, Logan Carswell, Tommy Roberts, Donnie Hopkins, Jason Dunn, and Taylor Spivey

- Sun May 14 Children's Sunday/Mother's Day (11am Sanctuary)
- Tue May 16 Women on Mission Bible Study (10am Library)
- Sun May 21 Graduate's Sunday (11am Sanctuary) Graduate's family meal following service
- Sun May 28 Memorial Day Service (11am Sanctuary)



New Member

On April 30, Sawyer Campbell joined the church by making a profession of faith and was baptized last Sunday, May 7. He is the son of Ross and Kristin Campbell. Grandson of James and Gail Campbell and Larry and Pamela Davis.



Ms. Carly's Corner for KIDS



Children's Sunday will be THIS SUNDAY May 14th (Mother's Day). We will practice in the Sanctuary at 10:15am. (You will be walked over from Sunday School.) Come support our children!

Children's Choir will be singing THIS Sunday on Mother's Day, May 14. We will practice in the sanctuary at 5:30 on Wednesday.

PASSPORTkids Camp is July 16-19 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. (3rd-6th Grade)

Final camp payment of \$225 is due by April 28th.

HELP WANTED: We are looking for a GA leader and helpers for the next school year. Leaders and helpers would begin in August. Please let me know if you are interested or know anyone who is.

Our last Wednesday night for RAs, GAs, Children's Choir, and Mission Friends for this school year will be Wednesday May 17th.



WHAT'S GOING ON 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!



May Sunday Children's Church Volunteer

- May 14th.....Jane Szoke, Kate Phillips & Caroline Spivey
- May 21st.....Carla and Clint Revels
- May 28th.....Kevin and Nan Phillips



UPCOMING EVENTS

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



Pictures for Our Memorial Day Service

On May 28th, we will have our annual Memorial Day Service. As a part of that special service, we will once again present our "Faces of Freedom" video. If you have a family member that you would like included, please turn the picture into the Church office NO LATER THAN MAY 15th or you can email the picture to blane@fbcfitz.com.

New Member

This past Sunday morning, Logan Clemons joined the church by making a profession of faith and he wishes to be baptized. He is the son of Tyler and Leslie Clemons. Grandson of Ronnie and Peggy Clemons and Lee and Francine Liles. The baptism will take place on Sunday morning, June 11.

CHURCH CALENDAR

TUESDAY, MAY 9
Daily Scripture: 1 Peter 2.2-10. Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10
Daily Scripture: John 14.1-14. Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16
 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, MAY 11
Daily Scripture: Acts 17.22-31. Psalm 66.8-20
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

FRIDAY, MAY 12
Daily Scripture: 1 Peter 3.13-22. Psalm 66.8-20

SATURDAY, MAY 13
Daily Scripture: John 14.15-21. Psalm 66.8-20

SUNDAY, MAY 14 *Mother's Day*
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 AM.....Children's Sunday (Sanctuary)*

MONDAY, MAY 15
Daily Scripture: Acts 17.22-31. Psalm 66.8-20

TUESDAY, MAY 16
Daily Scripture: 1 Peter 3.13-22. Psalm 66.8-20
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)
 10:00 AM.....Women on Mission Bible Study (Library)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17
Daily Scripture: John 14.15-21. Psalm 66.8-20
 6:00 PM.....Mission Friends, GAs and RAs*
 6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)*
 6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Burch Hall)*

THURSDAY, MAY 18
Daily Scripture: Acts 1.1-11. Psalm 47 and 93
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

FRIDAY, MAY 19
Daily Scripture: Ephesians 1.15-23. Psalm 47 and 93

SATURDAY, MAY 20
Daily Scripture: Luke 24.44-53. Psalm 47 and 93

SUNDAY, MAY 21
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 AM.....Graduate's Sunday (Sanctuary)*
 12:00 PM.....Graduate's Family Luncheon (Burch Hall)
 5:00 PM.....Women's Bible Study (Mann Hall)

MONDAY, MAY 22
Daily Scripture: Acts 1.1-11. Psalm 47 and 93

TUESDAY, MAY 23
Daily Scripture: Ephesians 1.15-23. Psalm 47 and 93
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)
 10:00 AM.....Women on Mission Bible Study (Library)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24
Daily Scripture: Luke 24.44-53. Psalm 47 and 93
 6:00 PM.....Mission Friends, GAs and RAs*
 6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)*
 6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Burch Hall)*

THURSDAY, MAY 25
Daily Scripture: Acts 1.6-14. Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

FRIDAY, MAY 26
Daily Scripture: 1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11. Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35

SATURDAY, MAY 27
Daily Scripture: John 17.1-11. Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35

SUNDAY, MAY 28
EIGHTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 PM.....Memorial Day Service (Sanctuary)*
 5:00 PM.....Women's Bible Study (Mann Hall)

*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 the Week of April 30 – May 6

Weekly Budget Required.....	\$12,574.13
Weekly Budget Received for 4/30/23 – 5/6/23.....	\$10,633.73
EOM Received for April.....	\$55,594.78
Monthly Budget Required.....	\$54,487.92
MTD Budget Received.....	\$23,747.41
YTD Budget Requirement.....	\$231,573.63
YTD Budget Giving Received.....	\$211,481.32
YTD Budget Expenses.....	\$210,793.44
Prayer Garden Budget Requirement.....	\$38,000.00
Prayer Garden Budget Giving Received.....	\$37,027.00
Special Gifts (Non-Budget) for the week of 4/30/23 – 5/6/23.....	\$1,351.00



RECOGNIZING OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES!

We would like to recognize all college and technical college graduates who are members of FBC Fitzgerald in the May 30 newsletter. **Please contact the church office by fbcfbcfitz.com with the graduate's name and photo, school name, degree, and career plans or drop these items off no later than Thursday, May 25.**

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

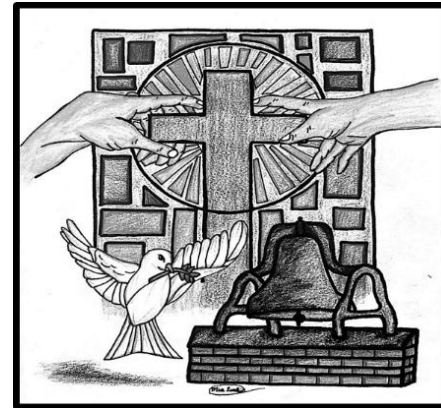
Contact us at 229-423-4367 or by email at fbcfbcfitz.com. You can also check out church information and activities on our website www.fbcfitz.com.



First Baptist Church
 P. O. Box 367
 (402 S. Merrimac Drive)
 Fitzgerald, GA 31750
Return Service Requested

Presort Std.
 Non-Profit Org.
 US Postage
 Paid
 Permit No. 2
 Fitzgerald, GA

Blank Blank
 Blank
 Blank, GA 55555



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

Wednesday May 10

Bible Study Through the Book of Philippians (3.12-4.3)

Sunday May 14 Easter 6 / Children's Sunday

A Celebration of our Children's Ministry
 Children Lead in worship
 The Dedication of Bo Matthew Dixon
 son of Jad and Erin Dixon

Wednesday May 17

Bible Study Through the Book of Philippians (4.4-9)

Sunday May 21 Easter 7 / Graduate Sunday

The Recognition of Graduates who will also lead in worship

Wednesday May 24

Bible Study Through the Book of Philippians (4.10-23)

Sunday May 28 Memorial Day Service

A remembrance of those who died in service to our country
 Honoring those who presently serve

Wednesday May 31

The Grand Conclusion of Paul's Letter to the Philippians

Deacon Election Results

July 1 serving 2023-2026 Deacons

**Stewart Carswell, III, Ed Hill, Sr., Trey Luckie,
 David Roberts, Zach Sheppard, and Eric Stone
 Shane Sapp will serve the vacant seat of 2022-2025 Deacon Term**

June 4 Deacon Ordination: Shane Sapp and Zach Sheppard