

FROM THE PASTOR

Affirming Our Faith: . . . to celebrate God's presence

Our Affirmation of Faith reminds us that as the church we are called to celebrate God's presence. This past Sunday was a beautiful example of a church doing exactly that. It was a service of worship with children teaching us to offer our gifts of music and learning and speaking to God. And all with eyes to see could sense God's presence among us. We held a little boy before us and promised to provide for him a true spiritual home, to learn from him, and to help his parents raise this precious gift of God in the way of Jesus. He was the presence of God to us. I pray we will be the presence of God to him.

Each and every Sunday we gather we are given the opportunity to celebrate God's presence. We do not gather in the sanctuary for entertainment or self-help tips for living. We enter the presence of God and we lift up our hearts to God in praise, thanksgiving, confession, and the offering of our lives, in the hopes that God will return our lives to us healed and transformed, perhaps ever so slightly, as we reenter the world as partners in God's creation to reconcile and repair the brokenness around us. And that is reason to celebrate.

The celebration continues this Sunday as we honor our graduates and celebrate God's presence in their lives. I hope you will be there!

WORSHIP AND VESPERS SCHEDULE

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)

NEWSLETTER CHANGES

June and July's newsletter will be mailed and emailed monthly.

A weekly news update will be emailed out on Thursday each week. If you are not signed up to receive email updates, please send your information to Dana at fbc@fbcfitz.com.

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 Epps – 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



THIS IS GRADUATE SUNDAY!! All graduates should have received a letter from me with all the information for Sunday morning. **BRING YOUR CAP AND GOWN** and meet at 10am in the Sanctuary to run through the service. If you have any changes for the banquet or to the worship service, please contact me ASAP. **GRADUATE PARENTS!! PLEASE be in Burch Hall Saturday morning at 9am to set up your senior's table. Bring anything that represents your child to place on your table.** ALSO.. Juniors and parents, we meet at 9am Saturday to decorate and prepare the food. All Juniors and a parent, please plan to be here on Sunday to help serve.



Our Summer Youth Calendar is NOW COMPLETE! We will be staying local this summer with our Wednesday Supper Clubs each week and our Summer Wiffleball League every Sunday afternoon. Please make sure you are ON MY GROUP TEXT so you will get updates and changes. **THIS WEEK WE DRAFT OUR WIFFLEBALL TEAMS AT WNL...** You MUST attend to be drafted. This Wednesday is our last WNL on campus. The following week we will meet for a supper club together. See You Sunday



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! In addition, the orchestra, choir and handbells **WILL NOT** be in the loft this week because of Graduate Sunday. 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.



Don't Miss the Memorial Day Worship Service

On Sunday, May 28th, we will have our annual Memorial Day Service. This has always been a very special service as we recognize those who have given the ultimate sacrifice as well as all our veterans. If you know of someone who might like to be recognized on that day, please take time to reach out and invite them to worship.



Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this Sunday, May 21, 2023, are dedicated to the glory of God and placed in loving honor of six High School Graduates and their families as well as all the teachers that have taught them here at First Baptist Church.

Dear FBC,
We are so thankful for the kindness and hospitality shown to our family during the loss of our mother, Marianne Barrs. Thank you especially to the bereavement committee for the wonderful meal that you provided for us. Although we have moved away from Fitzgerald you all made us feel like we were home again. With heart felt sincerity, Cindy Wright, Kim Charameda & Brad Barrs

Ms. Carly's Corner or KIDS

A special thanks to our children, parents, and many leaders who made Children's Sunday a success!



THIS Wednesday is our last night for RAs, GAs, Children's Choir, and Mission Friends for this school year. We will resume in August.

PASSPORTkids Camp is July 16-19 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. (3rd-6th Grade). Final camp payment of \$225 is PAST DUE.



VERY IMPORTANT: 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.



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 21st.....Carla and Clint Revels

May 28th.....Kevin and Nan Phillips



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Summer Calendar Events will soon be announced



RECOGNIZING OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES!

We would like to recognize all college and technical college graduates who are members of FBC Fitzgerald in the JUNE newsletter. **Please contact the church office by fbc@fbcfitz.com with the graduate's name and photo, school name, degree, and career plans or drop these items off no later than Tuesday, May 23.**

Dear First Baptist,
I want to thank our church family for the cards, texts, food, and prayers that were sent during the loss of my sister and nephew. They were greatly appreciated and helped us and will continue to help us through this difficult time. Tammie, Scott, Zach, and Kayla Sheppard



CHURCH CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, MAY 21
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 AM.....Graduate's Sunday (Sanctuary)*
 12:00 PM.....Graduate Banquet (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.....Youth Supper Club at Rancho Grande
 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
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 PM.....Memorial Day Service (Sanctuary)*

MONDAY, MAY 29
Daily Scripture: Acts 1.6-14. Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35

TUESDAY, MAY 30
Daily Scripture: 1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11. Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)
 10:00 AM.....Women on Mission Bible Study (Library)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31
Daily Scripture: John 17.1-11. Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35
 6:00 PM.....Youth Wiffle Ball Practice for All Teams
 6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Burch Hall)*

THURSDAY, JUNE 1
Daily Scripture: Acts 2.1-21. Psalm 104.24-35 or Numbers 11.24-30
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

FRIDAY, JUNE 2
Daily Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13. Psalm 104.24-35 or Numbers 11.24-30

SATURDAY, JUNE 3
Daily Scripture: John 20.19-23, 7.37-39. Psalm 104.24-35 or Numbers 11.24-30

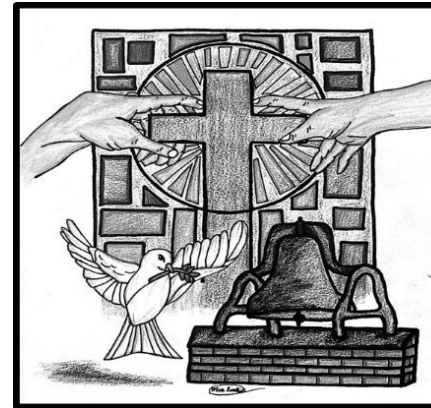
SUNDAY, JUNE 4
PENTECOST SUNDAY
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 PM.....Deacon Ordination and Worship (Sanctuary)*
 12:00 PM.....All Youth and Youth Parents Camp Orientation following worship*
 12:00 PM.....Luncheon with Church Conference following (Burch Hall)

*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 May 7 – May 13

Weekly Budget Required.....	\$12,574.13
Weekly Budget Received for 5/7/23 – 5/13/23.....	\$ 14,463.68
Monthly Budget Required.....	\$54,487.92
MTD Budget Received.....	\$25,097.41
YTD Budget Requirement.....	\$245,195.59
YTD Budget Giving Received.....	\$212,831.32
YTD Budget Expenses.....	\$215,206.96
Prayer Garden Budget Requirement.....	\$38,000.00
Prayer Garden Budget Giving Received.....	\$37,047.00
Special Gifts (Non-Budget) for the week of 5/7/23 – 5/13/23.....	\$2,821.00



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.

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 fbc@fbcfitz.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
Graduating Class of 2023
CONGRATULATIONS!!



Blake Blanchett



Carter Cook



Emma McLeod



Drew Moore



Ty Paulk



Grant Turner

Graduate Sunday May 21, 2023