

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!  
Any and all dates are subject to change.

- Sept. 23rd: Youth Events (See You at the Pole/Saw You at the Pole)

Sept. 27th: Call to Prayer Meeting during Sunday School Hour

Sept. 30th: Calendar Planning Meeting

October: Ministerial Staff Appreciation Month

Oct. 7th: Deacons' Meeting

Oct. 10th: Budget Workshop

Oct. 14th: Building & Grounds Committee Meeting

Oct. 18th: The Lord's Supper, Mary Hill Davis Offering, Youth Ministry Team Meeting

Oct. 31st: Trunk or Treat

Nov. 1st: Time Change—fall back one hour at 2:00 am.

Nov. 4th: Deacons' Meeting

Nov. 11th: Veteran's Day, Building & Grounds Committee Meeting

Nov. 15th: Youth Ministry Team Meeting

Nov. 18th: Thanksgiving Praise Service

Nov. 25th: Church Office closes at noon, No evening services or meal

Nov. 26th: Thanksgiving, Church Office Closed

Nov. 27th: Church Office Closed
- Nov. 29th-Dec. 6th: Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and International Missions

Dec. 2nd: Deacons' Meeting

Dec. 6th: Children's Christmas Musical

Dec. 9th: Business Meeting, Building & Grounds Committee Meeting

Dec. 13th: Home for Christmas Sunday

Dec. 20th: The Lord's Supper

Dec. 23rd: No evening services or meal

Dec. 24th: Church Office Closed, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec. 25th: Christmas Day, Church Office Closed

Dec. 30th: No evening services or meal

Dec. 31st: New Year's Eve, Church Office Closed.

Jan. 1st: New Year's Day, Church Office closed



SENIOR PASTOR:	Dr. Pepper Dill
ASSOCIATE PASTOR/YOUTH MINISTER:	Seth Pitman
CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR:	Joy Mitchell
OFFICE MANAGER:	Susan Carlton
OFFICE ASSISTANT/WEB MASTER:	Marsha Zabecki

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Words of Encouragement....

Phil 3:13-14 – *Brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.* [NLT]

Dear brothers and sisters, regardless of what has happened so far this year publicly, privately, politically, professionally, or personally – there are four things we can say with great certainty: *Jesus Christ is risen, Jesus Christ is Lord, Jesus Christ will restore all things, and Jesus Christ has called each of us to this very moment in time.*

These are four things every Christian should know and remember. Otherwise, we will be unable to make any real sense of our current cultural moment, or anything else that happens in our personal lives.

These four truths—again, that *Christ is risen, Christ is Lord, Christ will restore all things, and that we are called to this time and place*—are True, with a capital “T.” They aren’t true for me and not for you. They aren’t true only for those who believe them to be true. They aren’t true for our church and community and not for other churches and communities. They are just **True**. They describe God’s involvement in and control over the world in which we live.

Even in our current American context—with all of its political divisions, cultural upheavals, and medical uncertainties – they are still true. In fact, it is in this climate, not another, that we Christians are called to advance that which is true, good, and righteous. It is in this climate, not another, that we must pursue what Jesus identified as the two great commandments: to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength; and to love our neighbor as ourselves (i.e., to represent Christ clearly and openly to those around us).

These are strange and unusual times. This is not the first time in history circumstances have been so. Remember, He is risen... and He is in you. He is Lord... and we are His servants. He has called us... for such a time as this! He has not given us a spirit of fear (2 Tim 1:7)... but He has empowered us to love and encourage each other. He has also given us His Spirit and His Word to encourage us. Spend time with Him each day.

Please remember that we are back to our regularly scheduled services and activities here at the church facilities – and our Wednesday evening meals have now resumed at 5:30 PM. Invite your neighbors and friends to join you at church. They may be feeling alone and isolated, and may appreciate the encouragement of the fellowship and the Word of God.

As schools have started back and our society is trying to return to some sense normalcy, let us look to Christ, trust His Word, and remember these vitally important truths. Hold them fast and hold them up: *Christ is risen. Christ is Lord. Christ will restore all things. And He has called us to this time and this place. Amen.*

Blessings to you as you glorify Christ in all you say and do. **Bro. Pepper**



Don't forget to "Fall Back" one hour on Saturday night, Oct. 31st before you go to bed!  
We change back to Central Standard Time on Sunday morning, Nov. 1st at 2am.

# STUDENT & EDUCATION MINISTRY NEWS

*"But my eyes are toward you, O God, my Lord; in you I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless." (Psalm 141:8, ESV)*

In a time of our history where one cannot really know up from down or truth from fiction in regard to COVID, it is easy to get distracted by fear. It is easy to feel "defenseless." Our students are no exception. With the uncertainty of how the school year will pan out, anxiety is sure to be an issue our students will deal with.

Parents, you can ease some of these anxieties by reminding your student(s) that the LORD is fully in control. It may not seem so, but He is! If we keep our eyes fixed on Him, then everything else around us seems to fade away. Don't get me wrong, we should be mindful about our surroundings and circumstances, but we need to remind our students who is really in control. When we do, we can have confidence that God will not leave us defenseless.

I am praying for our students and parents as we embark on another school year. May this year prove fruitful and glorify our LORD. No matter what transpires, may you keep your eyes focused on Him who provides.

All for the Kingdom! *Seth*

Upcoming Youth Ministry / Education Ministry News:

Sunday school teachers & facilitators: If you need to make adjustments to your class's material or numbers, please contact Seth.

October 7 Fields of Faith (TBD—most likely cancelled)



## WORSHIP MINISTRY

*So here's what I want you to do. When you gather for worship, each one of you be prepared with something that will be useful for all: Sing a hymn, teach a lesson, tell a story, lead a prayer, provide an insight. I Corinthians 14:26 (The Message)*

Dear Forever Family:

The pandemic brought a halt to our regular Sunday programming for a few weeks. It has been such a blessing to be back worshipping together! We draw strength and encouragement from each other when celebrate the Risen Savior.

Many of you have been faithful to use your gifts and talents to honor the Lord. You may be wondering why we have not had solos or instrumental praise since we resumed regular services. We have been using a shortened format to encourage viewer engagement with online services. This does not mean, however, that there is no place for a well-timed special music selection.

When considering sharing a song, please keep in mind that *everything* we do musically should open people's hearts to hear from God as the message is delivered. It's not a performance--it's an awesome privilege and awesome responsibility.

We will not be setting up a special music schedule at this time. Instead, we want to be open to the moving of the Holy Spirit as He brings a song—a *word*—to you that you can share with our congregation.

When you believe that God has given you a song to share, please contact Leesa at 325-642-2033 or [leesa.stephens@verizon.net](mailto:leesa.stephens@verizon.net). We will visit with you about your song, and then try to plan a date that fits with your schedule as well as upcoming sermon topics and events. While you wait, practice and prepare so that you can present your best to the Master.

Please continue to be in prayer about the direction of our worship ministry.

Your Fellow Laborers for the Lord,

Leesa Stephens                      Stacy Walker  
Worship Coordinator              Worship Coordinator



## CHILDREN'S NEWS



### WELCOME HOME!!!

What beautiful words to hear! One of my favorite HGTV series is Extreme Makeover: Home Edition! In just one hour, an amazing team transforms a problem child home into a breathtaking, over the top, MANSION! Just before the the BIG reveal, as a big bus is blocking the view of the new home, everyone chants MOVE THAT BUS! As the bus pulls out, the family is in incredible awe of their new home that is always exceedingly more than they could ever imagine! Isn't that just what God wants to do in our lives? His plans for us are so much more than we could ever imagine or create in our own power. He desperately wants to MOVE THE BUS that is blocking or distracting us from Him and His plan for our lives! I want to encourage you as we enter this fall season to seek Christ first and return to your FIRST LOVE! Let's teach our children by our example to PUT CHRIST FIRST in our hearts, schedules and plans! Don't let the bus block your view or keep you from what God has planned for you and desires to do through your family and our church family this season! WE ARE THE CHURCH!

Soooo... let's MOVE THAT BUS!!!

WELCOME HOME FBC FAMILY! WELCOME HOME!

### SAVE THE DATES!

Oct. 31st: Trunk or Treat 5:30-7:00 pm

Dec. 6th: Children's Christmas Musical

Ephesians 3: 20

Now to Him who is able to do so much more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Lord bless you

And keep you

Make His face shine upon you

And be gracious to you

The Lord turn His Face toward you

And give you peace

NUMBERS 6:24

May His favor be upon you

And a thousand generations

And your family and your children

And their children, and their children

EXODUS 20:6

May His presence go before you

And behind you, and beside you

All around you, and within you

He is with you, He is with you

EXODUS 33:14

In the morning, in the evening PSALM 55:17

In your coming, and your going PSALM 121:8

In your weeping, and rejoicing PSALM 30:5

He is for you, He is for you ROMANS 8:31

A M E N!

JOY 😊

