

HEART

SOUL

MIND


STRENGTH

THE TIE

NOVEMBER 2017

*Give
Thanks*
TO THE LORD

NOVEMBER 2017

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 10am Patterson WMU Wednesday Night Activities: See Below Revonda Reames Barry Martin Andy West | 2 Steve Crow Rhett Rinaca | 3 Jimmy Reames Bill Ramey Mary Alice Ramey Blenda Macemore Chris Brown | 4 |
| 5 8:45am Blood Pressure Checks 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Betty S. Cox Mel Patterson | 6 10am Senior Adult Game Day 4pm Prayer Team Jennifer Patterson Sara Kalyn Croker Ellen Reynolds Carter Mitchell | 7 8am Men's Study 12pm Men's Study 1pm Norton WMU Johnnie Bolt Frances Feighner Barrett Holmes Charles Macemore | 8 Wednesday Night Activities: See Below 6pm Shoebox Packing Party for all Kids on Mission Groups Alison Rawl | 9 6pm Women's Ministry Paint Night Bill Craig Til Culbertson Jackie Burns Lynn Lancaster | 10 Rhonda Harman Tara Dean Walter Chandler Julie Griffin | 11 Darlene Curry Robert Crow Olivia Bishop |
| 12 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Trey Finley | 13 10am Senior Adult Game Day 4pm Prayer Team 6pm Adult Handbells Joy Arrington Allyson Sherer Sarah Bishop | 14 8am Men's Study 11am CWA Meeting 12pm Men's Study Hugh Madden Jimmy Chandler Bonnie Macemore | 15 Wednesday Night Activities: See Below | 16 2pm Knitting Group | 17 Tommy Curry | 18 Lauren Luiz |
| 19 8:45am Adult SS Leaders Meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30am Indoor Tailgate Debbie Bishop | 20 10am Senior Adult Game Day 4pm Prayer Team 6pm Adult Handbells 7pm Deacon's Meeting John Yarbrough | 21 8am Men's Study 12pm Men's Study 3pm Children's Handbells | 22 No Wednesday Night Activities Sadie Lee McGowan Ridge Howell Matt Henderson | 23 Chloe Smith  | 24 Anna Nance Reynolds Dylan Brink | 25 Gail Allen Gary Bishop |
| 26 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship | 27 10am Senior Adult Game Day 3pm Drop-in for FBC Members @ Martha Franks 4pm Prayer Team 6pm Adult Handbells Russell Dean Walt Addy | 28 8am Men's Study 12pm Men's Study 3pm Children's Handbells Gail Ricard Cathy Sherer | 29 Wednesday Night Activities: See Below | 30 | | |

Sundays

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|----------------------|----------------------|
| 4:15 Youth Handbells | 6pm Men's Study |
| 5pm Youth Choir | 6pm Women's Study |
| 6pm Youth Group | 6pm Adult Book Study |

Wednesdays

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 5pm Supper | 6pm Children's Choirs |
| 6pm Adult Studies | 6pm Youth Worship |
| 6pm Kids on Mission | 6pm Adult Choir |

Lesson from Trunk or Treat...

As I write these words, Trunk or Treat is still a few days away. By the time you read these words, Trunk or Treat will have come and gone. Yet, I have no doubt that the 2017 version will be worthy of celebrating as another successful event in the life of our church this year.

I will be the first to admit that I look forward to Trunk or Treat every year. Yes, dressing up in silly costumes and handing out candy may seem like child's play, but, this annual autumn event teaches some important lessons about what it means to be a church. So, let me take a moment to mention a few of the reminders that Trunk or Treat offers to us.

First, it is good for people of faith to laugh and have a good time. Far too often the church is characterized as stiff and serious. Yet, we all know that our faith is the source of not only our hope but also of our joy. Dressing up, laughing at each other, decorating our cars and greeting children with a smile are tangible expressions of this joy. This joyous approach to life, to each other and to our community should characterize the church on a regular basis not simply on a set aside Wednesday night in the Fall.

Second, our best ministries are those where everyone is involved. One of the things that I love about Trunk or Treat is that its success depends on our people supporting the night. At the heart of the evening are forty or fifty folks willing to decorate their cars, tractors and golf carts. We need hundreds of members donating candy. Further still, the night requires others directing traffic, helping with cleanup and making popcorn. Trunk or Treat is not a staff run ministry. Rather, it is the result of the majority of our people coming together to work toward a common goal of creating a fun night for children. I long for the day that we invest in more of our ministries with this same sort of team approach.

Third, in giving away we receive the blessing. One of the best parts of the night for me is sitting by our car and giving each child a piece of candy or a small treat. It is so much fun to see boys and girls in their costumes and to hear each child's excitement when receiving a particular type of candy. It is a pleasure to help fill their baskets to overflowing. We are at our best when we give and when we give generously.

Fourth, the best types of churches are those who love and minister to their communities. I am always amazed at the number of families from our community who have made Trunk or Treat at First Baptist a yearly part of their Halloween traditions. It does your heart good to see so many folks line up and wait patiently to walk through the line of cars and visit every trunk. We are a church that is committed not only to loving our own but to loving all of the people of Laurens. Trunk or Treat is a small yearly reminder for me of the difference we can make in others lives in big ways and even in small ways.

So, thanks to Elizabeth Franklin, our Minister to Preschools and Children who directs Trunk or Treat for all of her hard work. Thanks also to our staff who support Elizabeth 110% with this effort and who are always so willing to adjust their schedules on Trunk or Treat Wednesday to help with set up, clean up and by decorating their own cars and themselves. And, thanks to all of you for your cars, golf carts, candy, helping hands and smiles. We are at our best as a church in moments like these...Rickey

School Spirit Sunday & Indoor Tailgate for Missions - Sunday, November 19

Since we were not able to have our Fall Picnic in October, this will be a great time for us to fellowship around the tables. Mike and Charlene Stroud will be grilling hamburgers and we will also have chips, desserts and drinks. We ask that you simply make a reservation in advance. There is no set cost but we will graciously receive your donations for the meal with all of the proceeds going toward February's Mission Trip to Haiti. We are calling the lunch an Indoor Tailgate and we invite you to wear your school colors that Sunday too. This is the Sunday before the Clemson & South Carolina Football game and so we hope to make it a fun day all the way around. So, wear your team colors that day and plan now to join us in the gym for lunch.

Our Adult Sunday School Leaders Meeting will be Sunday November 19 at 8:45am in the Conference Room.

CWAs

Our Senior Adult group (Comfortable with Age) will have its November meeting on Tuesday, November 14 at 11:00am in Bobo Hall. Our Thanksgiving meal will be prepared by Lee's Barbecue and will be \$7 per person. You may call the church office to sign up or sign up on the pew pads.

Senior Adult Christmas Party

The Senior Adult Christmas Party will be held in Bobo Hall on Friday night, December 15, at 6:00pm. A complimentary dinner will be served in a very festive atmosphere! Our entertainment will be the Rankin family who provided our entertainment for our first CWA meeting in September.

Advent & Christmas Events

Hanging of the Greens has become a well-loved beginning to the Advent season at FBC! The service will be on Sunday, December 3, during morning worship. This is a time when all of our church family can participate in decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. The service includes music and scripture of the season and features several of our children's choirs. Bring a white, silver or gold ornament for your family to hang on the tree during the service.

How Should a King Come? Our Adult Choir will lead in our worship on Sunday, December 10. Make plans to be a part of this special day of worship through music.

Christmas Story is our children's musical retelling of the birth of Jesus. Mary and Joseph, angels, shepherds, wisemen, donkeys, cows, sheep and camels will all make an appearance! **Christmas Story** will be on Wednesday, December 13, at 6:00pm in the sanctuary.

Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion, an FBC Holiday Tradition, will be at 5pm on December 24th.

Meet our Newest Members!



Tim and Julie Wilkie
Andrew, Matthew



Cason Langston



Addison Mitchum



Lorraine Woodson



Leigh Little

Samaritan's Purse-Operation Christmas Child- It's time to begin gathering items for our shoeboxes! Boxes and instructions on how to pack them are available outside the church office. **Completed shoeboxes need to be returned to the church by Sunday, November 12.**

WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

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|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| November 5 | Luke 6:38 | <i>Gratitude & Generosity</i> |
| November 12 | Philippians 4:6-7 | <i>Gratitude's Attitude</i> |
| November 19 | Ephesians 1:15-16 | <i>Use Your Manners</i> |
| November 26 | Matthew 2:12 | <i>Starting At the End</i> |

The **Haiti Mission Trip** will be February 3-9, 2018. If you are interested in going, please see Adair Rogers.

MINISTER ON CALL

One of our ministers will be on call every weekend, so if you have a need, please don't hesitate to call us! The minister on call schedule is:

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Oct 30-Nov 5 | Tommy Cox | 864-684-7424 |
| November 6-12 | Adair Rogers | 864-923-1631 |
| November 13-19 | Rickey Letson | 678-230-8341 |
| November 20-26 | Carl Tolbert | 229-798-0620 |
| Nov 27-Dec 3 | Tommy Cox | 864-684-7424 |

THE TIE

First Baptist Church
300 West Main St
Laurens, SC 29360

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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Laurens, Sc 29360

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FOR THE RECORD - FBC IN OCTOBER

Average Sunday School: 325

Average Worship: 399

Average Worship & Extended Session: 420

OFFERING TOTALS - AS OF OCTOBER 22

Giving Needs YTD: \$864,934.21

Given YTD: \$859,618.54

Diverge Student Ministry

Sunday School - Students will be studying a 4-week series on the life of Esther. The series explores how God was working through her life to rescue His people. Students will learn how God can work in their lives to do big things.

Ministry Verses: Hebrews 10: 23-35 - "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."