

HEART

SOUL

MIND

STRENGTH


THE TIE

NOVEMBER 2018

School Spirit/Hamburger Lunch, Nov. 18

Our next trip to Haiti will be February 2-8, 2019. To help raise money for our trip, we will be having a Hamburgers for Haiti lunch on Sunday, November 18, following our morning worship service. Dress in your team colors that day and join us for a casual day of worship followed by a delicious time of food and fellowship together!

NOVEMBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8:45am SS Leaders Meeting 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Good Grief Part 1 10:30am Worship - Harvest Sunday	7am Middle School Breakfast 10am Senior Adult Game Day 2:30pm Women's World Day of Prayer - Rasor Chapel 4pm Prayer Team 6pm Adult Handbells Betty S. Cox Mel Patterson	7am High School Breakfast 7am Men's Study 12pm Men's Study Jennifer Patterson Sara Kalyn Croker Ellen Reynolds Carter Mitchell	Revonda Reames Barry Martin Andy West	Steve Crow Rhett Rinaca	Jimmy Reames Bill Ramey Mary Alice Ramey Blenda Macemore	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Good Grief Part 2 10:30am Worship 3pm Martha Franks Singers @ Rasor Chapel Darlene Curry Robert Crow Olivia Bishop	7am Middle School Breakfast 10am Senior Adult Game Day 4pm Prayer Team 6pm Adult Handbells Trey Finley	7am High School Breakfast 7am Men's Study 12pm Men's Study 3pm Children's Handbells Allyson Sherer Sarah Bishop	Wednesday Night Activities: See Below Johnnie Bolt Frances Feighner Barrett Holmes Charles Macemore	Allison Rawl	Bill Craig Til Culbertson Jackie Burns Lynn Lancaster	Rhonda Harman Tara Dean Walter Chandler Julie Griffin
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30 Hamburger Lunch 4:45pm D6 Parenting Seminar Lauren Luiz	7am Middle School Breakfast 10am Senior Adult Game Day 4pm Prayer Team 6pm Adult Handbells 7pm Deacon's Meeting Debbie Bishop	7am High School Breakfast 11am CWA Meeting 7am Men's Study 12pm Men's Study John Yarbrough	Wednesday Night Activities: See Below Hugh Madden Jimmy Chandler Bonnie Macemore	2pm Knitting Group	Jennifer Young Chloe Smith	Tommy Curry Hadden Martin
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Gail Allen Gary Bishop	7am Middle School Breakfast 10am Senior Adult Game Day 3pm Drop-in for FBC Members @ Martha Franks 4pm Prayer Team 6pm Adult Handbells 6pm Deacon's Meeting Debbie Bishop	7am High School Breakfast 11am CWA Meeting 7am Men's Study 12pm Men's Study John Yarbrough	No Wednesday Night Activities	Sadie Lee McGowan Ridge Howell Matt Henderson	Church Offices Closed Happy Thanksgiving! 	Anna Nance Reynolds Dylan Brink
25	26	27	28	29	30	
9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Gail Allen Gary Bishop	7am Middle School Breakfast 10am Senior Adult Game Day 3pm Drop-in for FBC Members @ Martha Franks 4pm Prayer Team 6pm Adult Handbells	7am High School Breakfast 11am CWA Meeting 7am Men's Study 12pm Men's Study 3pm Children's Handbells Russell Dean Walt Addy	Wednesday Night Activities: See Below Gail Ricard Cathy Sherer			

Wednesdays	
5pm Supper 6pm Adult Studies 6pm Kids on Mission	6pm Children's Choirs 6pm Youth Worship 7pm Adult Choir

Sundays	
4:15 Youth Handbells 5pm Youth Choir 6pm Youth Group	6pm Men's Study 6pm Adult Study

Thanksgiving Letters...

During the Thanksgiving season of last year, I challenged our congregation to write thank you notes to five people to whom it was important to express our appreciation for their place in our lives. I want you to know that in that particular instance, I took my own words to heart. I came up with a list of five important people in my life and sent them all a handwritten, heartfelt note which in each case arrived just days before Thanksgiving.

One year later, I want to report back to you on that experience. First I want you to know how good that exercise was for me personally. As you have heard me say before, I am not a note writer. However, the act of writing those letters truly gave me the chance to recognize my appreciation for and the gift of the five individuals to whom I wrote. It was a wonderful, concrete way to understand how fortunate I am. Second, I want you to know that it touched each of them. One thing I did not anticipate was that in all five cases, I got a note back. Those notes were not necessarily handwritten but rather they came in the form of texts, phone calls or a quick message via email. What was obvious to me was that they all truly appreciated the gesture. It meant something to them. In fact, one of my friends went so far as to say that it was a note that he would keep forever.

I want you to know that I plan to do it again this year. It was that valuable. Likewise, I want to challenge you to do something similar again too. You don't have to write five letters. You may prefer two or seven for that matter. Or, you may rather make a few phone calls. Whatever method you prefer, for your own benefit and for the sake of the blessing it will be to others, express your gratitude to one, two or eight folks this November. In the process, give thanks to God for how blessed you are and help someone you love to know what a blessing they are in your life and in the lives of others...*Rickey*

Harvest Offering - Sunday, November 4

Each First Sunday of November, we invite you to give a special offering to the life of our church that we call a Harvest Offering. The purpose is a specific offering through which we recognize God's bounty and blessings in our life so far this year. In some cases, the Harvest Offering serves as a way of catching up with our giving for the year. In other cases, it simply affords us the chance to thank God for his blessings in a tangible way. Your November set of envelopes includes one specifically for the Harvest Offering. If you cannot be with us on November 4, we will gladly receive your Harvest gift at any point during the month.

Worship In November

Nov. 4 *Out of Place Celebrations* | 1 Thessalonians 5:16
Nov. 11 *Prayers That Never Seem to End* | 1 Thessalonians 5:17
Nov. 18 *Forced Gratitude* | 1 Thessalonians 5:18
Nov. 25 *Always & Without Ceasing...* | 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Adult Sunday School Class Spotlight

Our spotlight class for the month is the ACTS Class. The class meets each week in Cooper 307, but they also enjoy many fellowship events, especially if it involves a meal together! The class age range is 50+.

The ACTS Class is involved in a variety of missions/ministry, including Allendale, AMI Kids, Angel Tree, Vacation Bible School, Habitat for Humanity, the Crisis Center and the Laurens County Memorial Home. The class uses the Session Series curriculum, as well as other special topical studies. The teachers are Randy Downs, Don Wessel, Valerie Stevenson, and Jack Griffin. If you would like more information on the ACTS Class or any of our other adult classes, please contact Tommy at the church or at tommy@fbclaurens.org.

Samaritan's Purse-Operation Christmas Child

It's the time of year to begin gathering our Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes! Boxes and instructions on how to pack the boxes will soon be available in the hall outside the church office. This is a great mission opportunity for your family, Sunday School class, Small Group, etc. Completed shoeboxes need to be returned to the church by Sunday, November 11. Make a commitment now to be involved this year!

Good Grief

We will be offering a two-part series on grief November 4 and 11 during the Sunday School hour (9:30am-10:20am). The sessions, which will meet in Classroom A of the Family Life Center, are designed to offer insight on grief and to help those who have lost something or someone they love. We will use the book *Good Grief* as the basis for our discussion. These books are available, free of charge, in the church office. It will be helpful to pick up and read the first part of the book prior to the first session on November 4. A reading/discussion schedule will be available with the book. If you have any questions, please contact Tommy Cox at the church or at tommy@fbclaurens.org.

Report from the Deacons – October 2018

Deacons approved work in the sanctuary, including repair of video/sound equipment, light bulb replacement, and preliminary cleaning of HVAC vents to explore the extent of needed work.

Deacons heard reports on the progress of the Capital Campaign construction projects.

- Architectural plans are complete and the plans released for bidding.
- Representatives from several church groups have met with the architect throughout this process, and a preview of the completed plans was held with representatives from the Deacons, Buildings and Grounds and Long-Range Planning Committees, and church staff.
- A general contractor should be chosen in November with work beginning late this year or early in 2019 on the first project – renovated youth space.
- The architect also reported that work should not disrupt gym usage.



Thank you to ALL who participated and helped with our annual **Trunk or Treat!** What an exciting evening full of fellowship and fun for everyone! We had 46 vehicles participate, 768 people trick-or-treat, and 153 bags of candy donated! Lots of popcorn, s'mores, cotton candy, hot chocolate and candy were served to precious children from all around our community! What a wonderful outreach to so many in such a fun way! Thank you for making it a wonderful night together! ~Elizabeth

November Reminders:

- November 4 - 2nd-5th Grade "Music Makers" Play in Worship - Practice at 9am
- November 6 - No "Music Makers"
- November 7 - Shoebox Packing Party in Kids on Missions for 2's through 5th Grade!
- November 11 - 1st Grade "Music Makers" Play in Worship - Practice at 9am
- November 18 - 4th & 5th Grade Children's Choir Sing in Worship - Practice at 9am
- November 18 - "Preschoolers in the Pews" for 4 & 5's
- November 20 - No "Music Makers"
- November 21 - No Wednesday Activities



Sunday, November 4th

We will load up the bus right after church and head to South Carolina to watch Auburn vs USC play volleyball and root on Anna Stevenson. Youth need to text Carl to get a seat on the bus for the game. There is no cost for the tickets.

Tuesday, November 6th is T-shirt Tuesday

Wear your favorite Diverge shirt to school.

Sunday, November 18th D6 Parenting Seminar

During these D6 Seminars, parents of both children and adults are invited to come. For this meeting, we will be looking at the culture our children and youth are growing up in and what that means for how we parent and reach them as a church, without changing the message of the Gospel. When we think back to our teenage years and how different we were from our parents, and with today's fast pace world, you can double the difference.

Sunday, December 2nd Youth Christmas Party

Like last year, we will split up our High School and Middle School students for the Christmas Party. The Middle School will meet right after church for their Christmas party at 12:00 over lunch. The High School will meet at 5:00 for theirs over dinner. Be sure to dress festively and bring a \$10-\$15 unisex gift to be shared. Locations for the parties will be determined soon.

Community Ping Pong Tournament

Sunday Afternoon, December 9

The tournament will take place in the FBC gym. Our plan is to have divisions for children, youth and adults. All levels of play are welcome. There is no cost. Light refreshments will also be available.

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 29-Nov 4	Carl Tolbert	229-798-0620
November 5-11	Tommy Cox	864-684-7424
November 12-18	Rickey Letson	678-230-8341
November 19-25	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631
Nov 26-Dec 2	Carl Tolbert	229-798-0620

THE TIE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

First Baptist Church	U.S. Postage Paid
300 West Main St	Permit No. 70
Laurens, SC 29360	Laurens, SC 29360

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

For the Record - FBC in October

Average Sunday School: 315
Average October Worship: 383
Average October Worship & Extended Session: 405
Offering Totals (Through October 29)
General Fund Needs YTD: \$887,005.67
General Fund Giving YTD: \$879,666.15
One Family/One Mission Capital Campaign Giving To Date: \$924,153.24

Martha Franks Singers

Veteran's Day Program of Patriotic Music
 Sunday, November 11th - 3 PM in Razor Chapel.

Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions

Each Christmas Season, we receive an offering to support Baptist Missionaries who serve us around the world. Named after Lottie Moon, who was a Baptist Missionary to China, this offering is a key component of the yearly financial needs for these missionaries who serve us so faithfully. Our goal for this year is \$60,000. Your December packet has an envelope specially for Lottie Moon. We will gladly receive your gifts to this offering at any point between now and the end of the year.

Children's Coat Drive now through November 18

The Women's Ministry Team is now accepting new or gently used coats of all children's sizes to be distributed to children throughout Laurens Dist. 55. Please donate using the box outside the church office.