

HEART



SOUL



MIND



STRENGTH

THE TIE

NOVEMBER 2022



Church-Wide Picnic
Sunday, November 6 from 4-6 PM
Camp Fellowship, Lake Greenwood

NOVEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Andy West Barry Martin	2 Steve Crow Rhett Rinaca	3 Blenda Macemore Mary Alice Ramey	4 Tim Marsh	5 Betty S. Cox Mel Patterson
6 Harvest Offering During Worship 4-6pm Church-Wide Family Picnic Ellen Reynolds Carter Mitchell	7 4pm Martha Franks Fellowship Johnnie Bolt Barrett Holmes	8 No Music & Missions Alison Rawl Joey McCord Nancy Fowler	9 Til Culbertson Jackie Burns Bill Craig	10 Bradley Madden Tara Dean Walter Chandler Julie Griffin	11 Darlene Curry	12 Paintball!
13 3-5pm <i>Surviving the Holidays</i> Middle & High School Handbells Play In Worship Allyson Sherer Carson Jenkins	14 Jimmy Chandler	15 11am CWA Meeting 1 st -5 th graders will pack shoeboxes during Missions.	16 Preschoolers will pack shoeboxes during Missions. Kirby Martin	17 2pm Knitting Group 5:30-7:30pm <i>Surviving the Holidays</i> Shoebox Collection Deadline Tommy Curry Hadden Martin	18 Lauren Luiz	19
20 1 st -5 th Grade Children's Choir will sing & 5 th Grade Handbell Choir will play in worship. John Yarbrough	21 7pm Deacon's Meeting	22 No Music & Missions	23 No Wednesday Activities Jennifer Young Matthew Wilkie	24 Anna Nance Reynolds Dylan Brink	25 Joey Hair	26
27 Hanging of the Green 1 st Sunday of Advent Walt Addy Russell Dean Matthew McCord	28 Gail Ricard Cathy Sherer	29 Madelyn Orcutt	30			

Sundays

9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship
5:00-7:30pm Youth Study, Music,
Supper, Handbells

5pm Women's Discussion Group
6pm Men's Group
6pm Adult Study

Wednesdays

5-7pm Canteen area open for BYO
supper
6-7pm Pre-School Kids on Mission
& Choir, 1st-5th Grade Children's
Choir

6pm Adult Bible Studies
7pm Adult Choir
6pm Youth Worship

From Our Pastor...

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV)

Gratitude. It is an "attitude," as the old saying goes.

On Monday, October 17, I attended Jimmie Keller's Memorial Service at the Martha Franks Chapel. One of the speakers shared these verses, as they reminded the speaker of Jimmie. The described her as someone who was always filled with joy. Because of that, her loved ones always enjoyed her company!

1 Thessalonians very well may be Paul's earliest letter that we have in the New Testament. Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica to commend them for their reputation as a people of faith. He went on to encourage them, knowing that they faced difficulties. He answered some of their concerns and then ended the letter with some "soundbites." These brief words of exhortation encouraged the earliest Christians on how to live in light of the difficulties they faced.

We, too, are encouraged to rejoice, pray and give thanks! The first Thanksgiving meal was a meal eaten under difficult circumstances. Pilgrims endured a harsh winter while learning how to survive in an unforgiving land. Many loved ones died. Yet, when harvest came, they celebrated with a meal to remember their blessings.

Regardless of our circumstances, we are taught to rejoice, to pray and to give thanks. It is natural to my personality to analyze and evaluate. I want to improve and grow. I want the organizations I am a part of and the churches that I serve to grow and improve. I want to smooth rough edges, eliminate blemishes and pursue excellence. In doing so, I can forget to give thanks for the good.

Sue Annis Hammond, a business consultant, observed that businesses were paralyzing their employees in their evaluation processes. Most of the time, in evaluations, weaknesses are observed, pointed out and employees are asked to correct these weaknesses. Instead, Hammond encourages a different approach that she calls *appreciative inquiry*. In her book, *The Thin Book of Appreciative Inquiry*, Hammond encourages businesses and individuals alike to focus on recognizing and enhancing strengths, rather than focusing on weaknesses. Emphasizing the positive improved productivity, increased confidence and inspired employees to work harder. We perform better when we are encouraged, when we encourage and when we are allowed to build upon our strengths, instead of always giving energy to improving weaknesses.

As we enter Thanksgiving, celebrate what we have as a church that's good, that brings joy and embodies our best. Look inwardly, and don't self-loathe the things that you would improve. Rather, celebrate your strengths, and embrace them as God's gifts to you! Look at the blessings you have rather than what's missing. Celebrate them! We have so much to be thankful for!

Grace and peace, Tim

Adult Discipleship Opportunities:

Wednesday Evening

- *Heavenly Stories with Earthly Meaning* - Led by Tim Marsh at 6:00pm in Bobo Hall
- *Nehemiah: Strength to Build for God* - Led by Tommy Cox at 6:00pm in the Craft Room.

Sunday Evening

- Women's Group: Meets from 5:00pm in the Craft Room. **
- *Unshakeable Hope: Building Our Lives on the Promises of God.* - Led by Tim Marsh, John Topping, Phillip Dean, and David Corley at 6:00pm in Bobo Hall
- Men's Group: *Kingdom Men Rising* - Meets at 6:00pm in Classroom A.

Tuesday Morning

Men's Group: *Kingdom Men Rising* - Meets at 7:00am in Classroom A.

**Our Women's Group is a multi-generational discussion class that meets at 5:00pm in the Craft Room. Childcare is provided upon request. The class will be led by Bryson Schultz and Jessica Cooper. If you would like to join us, sign up on the pew pads on Sunday morning or contact the church office.

Grief: Surviving the Holidays- One of the most difficult times for many people is the holidays. When we have recently lost a loved one, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years can be days that we dread rather than the magical time of year that we look forward to. This can be especially true when it is our first holiday season after the death of a spouse, parent, child, or someone else very special to us. With these things in mind, we will be offering a 2-hour *Surviving the Holidays* seminar during November. This seminar is designed to help us learn to deal with the emotions and changes associated with grief during the holidays. We will be offering this seminar twice and on different dates to best suit your schedule. Tommy Cox will lead these seminars on:

- Sunday, November 13 from 3:00-5:00pm in Bobo Hall
- Thursday, November 17 from 5:30-7:30pm in Bobo Hall

Registration is required. To register, you may contact the church office, sign up on the pew pads, or contact Tommy at tommy@fbclaurens.org.

- November 6 - Church Family Picnic @ Camp Fellowship from 4-6pm. We hope you'll join us!
- November 8 - NO TUESDAY ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS since there is no school.
- November 12 - Paintball Trip: sign up with Andrew for more details!
- November 15 - 1st-5th graders will pack shoeboxes during Missions.
- November 16 - Preschoolers will pack shoeboxes during Missions.
- November 20 - 1st-5th Grade Children's Choir will sing in worship & 5th Grade Handbell Choir will play in worship.
- November 22 - NO TUESDAY ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS.
- November 23 - NO WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES.
- November 27 - Hanging of the Greens during Worship.

Winter Retreat 2023 Sign Ups have begun!

Join us January 13-15 as we learn how to live out our faith "In Plain Sight." See Andrew to get signed up

RECREATION MINISTRY

- November 6 - Church-wide Family Picnic
- November 12 - Come play paintball with us! See Andrew for details.

Church-Wide Picnic Sunday, November 6 from 4:00-6:00pm at Camp Fellowship on Lake Greenwood

If you plan to attend, we ask that you bring either a side or a dessert share. The church will be providing the meat and drinks.

We will also provide transportation for those who need help getting there. The church bus will leave from the church parking lot at 3:15 and will stop by Martha Franks at 3:30 before traveling to Camp Fellowship. Please let us know if you'd like a seat on the bus.

To help us best plan for this special event, we ask that you please sign up as soon as possible. You may sign up by clicking here, by emailing emily@fbclaurens.org, or on the pew pads Sunday morning.

We hope that you will be able to join us for this special time of food and fellowship. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the church office.

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 31-Nov 6	Andrew Corley	864-923-5841
November 7-13	Tommy Cox	864-684-7424
November 14-20	Elizabeth Franklin	803-960-9099
November 21-27	Tim Marsh	828-755-1616
Nov 28-Dec 4	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631

Financial Record - October 2022

October Needs:	\$109,164.00
October Giving:	\$82,320.53
2022 Giving to Date:	\$858,258.04
2022 Needs to Date	\$960,643.20

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

DEACONS ELECTED FOR THE 2023-2025 TERM

Heather Coggins
 Randy Downs
 Steve Hobbs
 Will Prescott
 Meg Turner
 Mike Turner
 Jon Welch
 Jennifer Young

Meet our New Members!



Carson Bolding, son of
 Ryan & Keri Bolding



Cindy Cook Davis
 with Alton Davis