

HEART



SOUL



MIND



STRENGTH

# THE TIE

JUNE 2023



**VACATION  
BIBLE SCHOOL**

**JUNE 11-15, 2023**

**5-8 PM**

**3 YEARS - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
(MUST BE POTTY TRAINED)  
ENROLL AT [FBCLAURENS.ORG](http://FBCLAURENS.ORG)**



MAY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Georgianna Martin	2 Vicki Crow Sherri Sherer Rosemary Veneklasen	3 Chris Martin Jordan Kenmore
4 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5pm Youth Paint War 6pm Men's Group Lois Revis Frank Finley Helen Dean	5 4pm Martha Franks Fellowship Bates Turner Price Turner Spires McCameron	6 5:30pm Golf Fellowship	7 Pam Blore Pat Lee	8 6pm Family Skate Night Susan Johnson Taylor Bragg	9 Temple Horger Brent Yates	10 Jeannette Cook Terri Burroughs Kevin Werts Charlotte Ballard
CAMP MCCALL						
11 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Joe Culbertson Cole Alexander	12 Anne Ott Stan Coleman Joe Leopard	13 Elizabeth Franklin Marty Jacks	14	15 2pm Knitting Group Candee Langford Alma McCullough Carter Pratt	16 Anna Goforth Lily Goforth Aaron Dasher Ellis Chandler	17 Billy Strickland Ki Allen
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL						
18 9am PassPort Kids Parent Mtg 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Father's Day Billy Lanford	19 7pm Deacon's Meeting	20 5:30pm Golf Fellowship	21 6pm Summer Boot Camp	22 Beth Hodges Earl Martin Rob O'Bryant Heather Coggins Daniel Sherer Gwen Brocklehurst Brittany Kesler	23 Richard Coggins Brady Sherer Melody Jacks Jon Welch	24 Zachary Kenmore McKenzie Cooper
SONPOWER, NASHVILLE TN						
25 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Beau Belsom Todd Rush	26 Janet Nygard	27 Mickey Jacks Robin Hornberger	28 6pm Summer Boot Camp Cade Robertson Carson England	29 Debbie Honeycutt Phillip Dean	30 Darrell Brooks	
PASSPORTKIDS CAMP						

## *Dear Church Family and Friends,*

*When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

*(John 8:12, NIV)*

*Lord, our Lord,*

*how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

*You have set your glory  
in the heavens.*

*2 Through the praise of children and infants  
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,  
to silence the foe and the avenger.*

*3 When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place,*

*4 what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them? (Psalm 8:1-4, NIV)*

Light. The light of one solitary candle can pierce the thick darkness of the midnight hour. It is mesmerizing, so much that it attracts the attention of insects, animals, even people. It moves effortlessly at breakneck speed, so that our eyes receive light and our brains process that light into images and information faster than any computer can process information.

Light travels at 186,282 miles per second. Yet, our universe is so vast that the light of our own sun takes approximately eight minutes to reach our planet. The light of the closest star to our solar system – Proxima Centauri – takes almost four years and three months to reach our planet. When we look into the night sky and see hundreds of stars visible, we are looking back into time. And as we look back into time, we look past creation to the Creator. We stand in awe at the vastness and the complexity of creation. We see God's handiwork and wonder why God pays attention to us – human beings – on one planet of one solar system in one galaxy of this vast universe.

The closest light to our planet comes from the moon. Light from the moon that brightens the night sky arrives on our planet in two seconds. Yet, its light does not generate from the surface of that celestial body. No, instead, it receives light from our sun and reflects it to the surface of the earth. It is not the source of the light. But it shares the light.

This June, our children will learn to shine Jesus' light in their lives, in their homes, at school, and wherever they might be. Vacation Bible School began when a teacher, D. T. Niles, realized that he did not have enough time to teach the Bible to children during the school year. He began offering instruction at a local church during the summer. Vacation Bible School has

morphed into an exciting, theme-based program that teaches the Bible to children in creative ways. Many may trace our own salvation experience and trace its roots to Vacation Bible School. Through curriculum, but, more importantly, through an environment filled with volunteers who care and other children who know Christ, Vacation Bible School proves annually to be an effective tool to share Christ with children and meet families in our community.

This year, our children will learn:

- When life feels dark, shine Jesus' light!
- When people don't get along, shine Jesus' light!
- When good things happen, shine Jesus' light!
- When people are sad, shine Jesus' light!
- When people need help, shine Jesus' light!

These truths will come alive through stories of Jesus' birth, Phillip and the Ethiopian Eunuch, Zacchaeus, the Crucifixion and Jesus' Triumphant Entry! More than that, with space-themed snacks, games, activities, crafts and music, our children will remember the wonderful light of Christ.

May we be prepared, like the Moon reflects the light of the Sun, to reflect the light of Christ to all children present and their families. When others come to First Baptist for VBS, may we shine Jesus' light!

## **Attention Men: "Summer Boot Camp"**

This summer, we will be offering a six-session study on a specific topic designed to encourage you in your faith and challenge you in your walk with Christ. Our 2023 summer study will be "Tell Someone", which is an online course led by Greg Laurie of Harvest Ministries.

The purpose of this study is to encourage you in your walk with Christ, challenge you in how you view those who don't know Jesus, inspire you to live out the Great Commission, and equip you to effectively go and tell someone about Jesus.

Participants will view the online study each week, then meet to discuss the study. Discussion nights will be Wednesdays at 6:00pm on the following dates: June 21, June 28, July 5, July 12, July 26, and August 2. We will be meet in the Craft Room.

The study is open to all men, regardless of whether you have been involved in one of our men's studies before; however, you will need to sign up by Sunday, June 18 to participate. To sign up, or if you have any questions, please contact Tommy Cox in the church office or at [tommy@fbclaurens.org](mailto:tommy@fbclaurens.org).



- June 2-4 - Father/Son Retreat to Camp McCall
- June 6 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Outing to Fuddruckers & Frankie's Fun Park, 11am-3pm
- June 8 - Family Skate Night at Skate Away USA in Greenwood, 6-8pm
- June 11-1 - Vacation Bible School, 5-8pm
- June 18 - PassportKids Parent Meeting at 9am
- June 18 - VBS Celebration during Worship
- June 26-29 — PassportKids Camp, Brevard College



Summer is here and it is going to be busy! Please be in prayer for our Youth Choir this month as we head to Nashville for SonPower, a time of worship, service, music, and fun!

- June 4 - Paint War! Summer Kick-Off Event
- Week of June 5 - Summer Bible Studies begin meeting
- June 19-23 - SonPower, Nashville TN

# June 19-23, 2023

# Son Power

**We will leave Monday,  
June 19 at 6:00am  
and return Friday,  
June 23 at 4:00pm.**

## 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:

May 29-June 4	Andrew Corley	864-923-5841
June 5-11	Tim Marsh	828-755-1616
June 11-18	Tommy Cox	864-684-7424
June 19-25	Elizabeth Franklin	803-960-9099
June 26-July 2	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631

## THE TIE

First Baptist Church  
300 West Main St  
Laurens, SC 29360

## NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 70  
Laurens, SC 29360

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Financial Record - May 2023

May Needs:	\$88,076.92
May Giving:	\$52,811.00
2023 Needs to Date:	\$412,546.00
2023 Giving to Date:	\$338,726.24

## RECREATION MINISTRY

With a short summer for so many of us we have two family events on the calendar:

- June 8 - Family Skate Night, Skate Away USA in Greenwood
- July 10 - Tubing in Saluda, NC

Contact Andrew for more details and to get signed up for both events!

**FBC Golf Fellowships continue in June!** Dates are Tuesdays, June 6 and June 20, at Lakeside CC. We will play a 9-hole, Captain's Choice format with a shotgun start at 5:30pm. The cost per golfer is \$30. Sign up by contacting the church office or email Tommy at [tommy@fbclaurens.org](mailto:tommy@fbclaurens.org). Registration deadline is the day before each match.