

HEART



SOUL



MIND



STRENGTH

THE TIE

AUGUST 2023

*Promotion Sunday
August 6!*



Don't miss the Donut Fellowship before
Sunday School (8:45-9:30) and the Blessing
of the Backpacks during worship!

First graders will also receive their new
Bibles on this day.

AUGUST 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Promotion Sunday 8:45am Donut Fellowship 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Natalie Rubio Kevin Allmond	4pm Martha Franks Fellowship Susan Corley Joe Kirby	Braden Yarbrough Brian Harlan BettyLynn Cadle Ashley Bragg	6pm Men's Boot Camp #6 Lee Cooper Andrew Corley	David Corley Taeko Riddle Jean Deason JP Pratt	Emily Reynolds Tana Adams Owen Pridgen	Elaine Sumerel
6 Promotion Sunday 8:45am Donut Fellowship 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Natalie Rubio Kevin Allmond	7 4pm Martha Franks Fellowship Susan Corley Joe Kirby	8 Kena Cox Andrew Burroughs	9 6pm Youth Parent's Meeting Betty Lowry	10 10am FBC Kindergarten Story Time 5pm Senior Adults to Hello Dolly Hunter Holmes	11 Ruth Ann Sharp	12 Brandon Addy
13 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Easterby Dedication 5:30pm Youth Thrift Store Prom 5:30pm Children's Parents Meeting	14 Susan Sexton Alivee Coggins Don Price	15 5pm Kindergarten Open House 5:30pm Golf Fellowship Bart Cothran Haymes Harlan	16 6pm Adult Bible Studies Children & Youth Activities Resume	17 First Day of School for FBC Kindergarten 2pm Knitting Group Jay Sherer Jeff Parks James Barbare	18 5 th Quarter @ Chestnut Ridge Mariel Cooper	19 Kirk Garrett
20 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 6pm Adult Bible Study Children & Youth Activities Resume Cindy Chandler	21 7pm Deacon's Meeting Julie Coloper Matthew Turner Caroline Culbertson Lori Wham	22 1 st -5 th Grade Missions, Music & Rec restart Cathy Little Laura Taylor	23 Wednesday Activities See Below Nancy Chapman Jerry Wright	24 Betsy Brown Mellie Motes	25 5 th Quarter @ FBC Sara-Frances Reid	26 Ray Craft Katrina Vaillancourt
27 Sunday Activities See Below Sandy Johnson Natalie Fleck Merry Chandler	28 Barbara Ward George Love Linda Oliver	29 1 st -5 th Grade Missions, Music & Rec 5:30pm Golf Fellowship	30 Wednesday Activities See Below 6pm Adult Bible Studies	31 Alice Brown		

Sundays

Wednesdays

9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00-7:30pm Youth Study, Music, Supper	6pm Men's Group 6pm Adult Study	5-7pm Canteen area open for BYO supper 6-7pm Pre-School Kids on Mission & Choir, 1 st -5 th Grade Children's Choir	6pm Adult Bible Studies 6pm Youth Worship 7pm Adult Choir
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Dear Church Family and Friends,

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ (Matthew 25:34-40, NIV)

While teaching at Martha Franks, Rebecca shared a story from my previous church. From time to time, we would aid those in our community that needed help with gas, utilities, or food. As is the case in most small towns, including Laurens, there was great need in Rutherford County. Like many small towns, losing long-time factory jobs hurt the once-proud working citizens of these communities.

I actually do not remember this particular woman who came in for help and I did not hear the result of the story until we moved to Laurens. However, at the town's Hilltop Festival, the fall festival in Rutherfordton, a woman stopped at First Baptist's booth. She shared her name and a little bit about her story. She wanted to thank First Baptist for helping her out. She said that several years ago she decided to enter rehab in Asheville for drug addiction but needed the gas money to get there. She said some “gray-haired” man in the office took her to the local BP and filled her car. She just wanted him to know that several years later she is clean, and she is working at the rehab place as a full-time counselor.

When you hear the word “missions” what do you think? As a born and raised Southern Baptist I think of Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong. I think of stories of missionaries going to foreign lands to minister to remote tribes. I think of evangelism. However, while these are important parts of mission, so are other things. Missions is helping to put a roof on a house. It's listening to someone who has no one to talk to. It is visiting the nursing homes, the prisons, the rough neighborhoods, and the hospitals. It's building relationships with those we find there, demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ in both word (evangelism) and deed!

Over the next months, we will be talking about missions quite a bit. We will talk about ministries existing in our church. We will discover our passions as a congregation. And we will invite you to engage specific areas to which God is calling you. On Sunday, September 17, our church will have a Missions Fair

to showcase all that our church does to minister to the needs of our community and beyond. Mark your calendar! More than that, be in prayer as to how God may use your gifts, talents, and passions for his glory and good of the world!

We have mission fields all over the globe. We have mission fields in our nation. We have mission fields in South Carolina. We have mission fields here, in our own back yard. God calls us to go, whether “going” is across the world or across the street!

Grace and peace,

Tim

Wednesday Night Adult Bible Studies beginning August 16 at 6:00pm

Being Baptist - Wednesdays, Bobo Hall

What does it mean to be a Baptist? Beginning Wednesdays, August 16, we will explore the history, the beliefs, the values, and the unique contributions Baptists have made to Christianity as a whole. While we know that our relationship with Jesus is the most important thing about our faith, being Baptist reminds us that we have direct access to God by the Holy Spirit, we hold Scripture in high regard for faith and practice, and we have the freedom to discern what it means to follow Jesus Christ in our world. Join us for this study of our heritage of faith! Led by Tim Marsh.

The Gospel of John: Part I-This 12-week study will explore the first twelve chapters of John's gospel, helping us to come to grips with it's meaning and show us how it still transforms our lives today. Tommy Cox will lead this study each week in the Craft Room.

Sunday Evening Adult Bible Studies beginning August 20 at 5:00pm

What if Jesus Was Serious? by Skye Jethani

Sunday Evening Discipleship Book Study

Cost: \$10 per book

David Corley, Phillip Dean, Tim Marsh, and John Topping invite you to participate in a time of conversation and community around a biblically-based book, chosen to inform us, challenge us, inspire us, and ultimately, aid in the Spirit's work in our lives to transform us to reflect Jesus Christ! Author Skye Jethani challenges us to consider the meaning and implications of Jesus' teachings for today!

Men's Groups! During the Fall, we will be studying the first seven chapters of Romans. We will also be using the G.R.I.P. study method to deepen our own personal study time. The Sunday evening group will meet at 6:00pm (beginning August 20) and the Tuesday morning group will meet at 7:00am (beginning August 22). Both groups will meet in Classroom A (FLC/Gym area). For more information, please contact Tommy Cox.

- **August 6:** Don't forget to join us for Promotion Sunday!
- **August 10:** FBC Kindergarten Library Storytime @ 10am.
- **August 13:** Children's Ministry Parent Meeting @ 5:30pm in Easterby Chapel.
- **August 15:** FBC Kindergarten Open House from 5-7pm
- **August 16:** Wednesday night restart!
- **August 17:** First Day of School @ FBC Kindergarten!
- **August 20:** Sunday night restart!
- **August 22:** 1st-5th Grade Missions, Music, & Rec restart!

- August 9: Parent's Meeting, 6pm, Youth Room
- **August 13:** Thrift Store Prom, 5:30pm
- **August 16:** Wednesday Night Kickoff
- **August 18:** 5th Quarter @ Chesnut Ridge
- **August 20:** Sunday Night Kickoff
- **August 25:** 5th Quarter @ FBC
- **September 1:** 5th Quarter @ Chesnut Ridge

A note from Adair:

My recent trip to the Holy Land was one of the most meaningful, indescribable trips I have ever taken. Scripture is so much clearer to me after seeing so many of the places where Jesus traveled and ministered. Because there is still so much to see, take in and understand, I'm going back again March 11-21, 2024! Some of the places we'll be going:

- Caesarea Phillipi, Magdala, Bethlehem,
- Church of the Nativity, Sea of Galilee, Mt. of Beatitudes,
- Capernaum, Tiberius, Cana, Jordan River,
- Caesarea by the Sea, Mt. Carmel, Megiddo, Nazareth,
- Masada, Beit Shean, The Dead Sea, Qumran,
- Valley of Armageddon, Valley of the Shadow of Death,
- Jericho, Bethany, Jerusalem, Mt. of Olives, Pater Noster,
- Hezekiah's Tunnel, Ein Gedi, Garden of Gethsemane,
- Temple Mount, Dominus Flavit, House of Caiphas,
- Mount Zion, The Upper Room, The Shepherds' Field,
- Crusader Church of St. Anne, Pool of Bethesda,
- Via Dolorosa, Church of the Holy Sepulchre,
- Western Wall, Ein Karem, The Garden Tomb.

If you're interested in traveling with Phil Hall, Alex and me, let me know and I'll get you more information about the trip.

Adair

FBC Golf Fellowships continue in August on the 15th and 29th at Lakeside Country Club. We will play a 9-hole, Captain's Choice format with a shotgun start at 5:30pm. Cost per golfer is \$30. Sign up by emailing Tommy @ tommy@fbclaurens.org or call 984-7500. Registration deadline is 5pm the day before each round.

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:

July 31-Aug 6	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631
August 7-13	Tim Marsh	828-755-1616
August 14-20	Tommy Cox	864-684-7424
August 21-27	Andrew Corley	864-923-5841
Aug 28-Sept 3	Elizabeth Franklin	803-960-9099

THE TIE

First Baptist Church
300 West Main St
Laurens, SC 29360

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SENIOR ADULTS

There are 34 of us signed up to see Hello Dolly on August 10! There are no more tickets available, but we'll be glad to put your name on a waiting list in case we have a cancelation!

SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

The Senior Adult Conference will be held at the Gatlinburg Convention Center on September 25-27. Registrations have already been made, but if you're interested in going, please see Adair, and she'll see if she can get you signed up!

Meet our New Members!



John Alan Marsh, Son of Tim and Rebecca Marsh



Linnea and Elin Ottosen, daughters of Corey and Anna Ottosen

Financial Record - July 2023

July Needs:	\$110,096.15
July Giving:	\$125,485.30
2023 Needs to Date:	\$660,576.90
2023 Giving to Date:	\$624,663.47