

HEART



SOUL



MIND



STRENGTH

# THE TIE

SEPTEMBER 2023

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

## FBC MISSIONS FAIR and MEAL

September 17 after Worship

- + Learn about the missions work that is being done in our church, in our town and farther afield.
- + Discover volunteer opportunities.
- + Support Straight Street and Family Promise.

# SEPTEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Sunday Activities See Below Greg Davis Chip Jenkins	4 Brent Smith Cooper Coggins Joy Culbertson Rosemary Patterson	5 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Missions, Music & Rec Rebecca Corley Tom Reid Logan Bragg	6 Wednesday Activities See Below Rachel Spoon John Topping	7 Olivia Crotts Lewis Compton	8 Abby Griffin Elizabeth Whitman	9 Robin O'Bryant Kristen Rinaca Tori Carpenter
9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5pm Women's Group Sunday Activities See Below Lisa Corley	11 4pm Martha Franks Fellowship Peggy Lee	12 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Missions, Music & Rec 5:30pm Golf Fellowship Carolyn McDaniel Melissa Gault Bobby Creech Jalen Bragg	13 Wednesday Activities See Below	14 2pm Knitting Group Gary Allen Nancy Brown	15 Jon Henderson	16 Glen Culbertson Davis Sexton
9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship FBC Missions Fair after Worship Sunday Activities See Below Graycen Coggins	18 7pm Deacon's Meeting Perry Lanford Brittney Allen	19 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Missions, Music & Rec Kim Mitchum Margaret McIntyre Beverly Hall	20 Wednesday Activities See Below Kirk Garrett	21 Owen Crow	22 Ping Pong Tournament Bob McCraney	23 Youth to Carowinds/ Scarowinds Bobby Ivey Millie Gwinn Cheri Griffin Bill Wham
9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5pm Women's Group Sunday Activities See Below Douglas Todd	25 Katie Hanna	26 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Missions, Music & Rec 5:30pm Golf Fellowship Claire Pratt Beth Holmes	27 Wednesday Activities See Below 6pm Adult Bible Studies Pam Cox Zoey Sward Buddy Craig Ahna Rubio	28 Malinda Chalmers Emma Kate McCameron	29 5 <sup>th</sup> Quarter @ Chestnut Ridge Lynn Finley Joseph Ricard	30 Brie Holmes Catie Rawl

## Senior Adult Fall Jubilee

### Sundays

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

6pm Men's Group  
6pm Adult Study

### Wednesdays

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

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

*Dear Church Family and Friends,*

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8, NIV)*

When Jesus said these words the disciples had different expectations. They witnessed the miracle of the resurrection. Now, according to Luke's Gospel, the Scriptures made sense. Jesus' teachings, miracles, and death were comprehended. God was at work in and through Jesus in a special way. Normally, we would have expected Peter to ask what came next. Instead, Luke reports, they, that is, all of the disciples asked the question, "Lord, now will you restore the Kingdom to Israel?"

Even after witnessing the resurrection, their expectations were too small. When they heard Jesus teach and preach the Kingdom of God, they believed that this was just Israel's hope. They believed that they were only participating in Israel's story. Jesus refuted their request for dates and times. Instead, he prepared them for an adventure. The Holy Spirit would come upon them and they would be Jesus' witnesses, beginning in Jerusalem, then into the region of Judea, cross-culturally to the dreaded Samaritans, and ultimately to the ends of the earth. They would tell others what they had seen and experienced. They would do the things that Jesus did. The Kingdom would come, but not as they expected. It would come through the message of those who had been with Jesus, who had been transformed by Jesus, and who received the Holy Spirit, empowering them for their adventure.

On September 17 we will have the opportunity to share in some adventures. Following our Morning Worship service, we all are invited to Missions Fair in the Family Life Center. At the fair, approximately thirty booths will represent missions enterprises of our church and those in our community. We will see what God has been doing and continues to do in and through our congregation. Our eyes will be open to new possibilities for missions. God may inspire us to consider opportunities we have not hitherto considered. Or, God may inspire us to join in existing projects, fulfilling our gifts and passions for his glory.

Years ago, the First Baptist Church of Laurens developed a missions strategy based on Acts 1:8 – Local, Regional, Cross-cultural, and Global. Let's see where God is at work and join Him! The Spirit will lead us to share Christ in both word and deed, as we see God's Kingdom come in new and surprising ways.

Join us on Sunday, September 17!

*Grace and peace,  
Tim*

## **Adult Discipleship Opportunities**

### **Wednesday Evenings at 6:00pm**

- *Being Baptist*- Led by Tim Marsh in Bobo Hall
- *The Gospel of John, Part 1* - Led by Tommy Cox in the Craft Room.

### **Sunday Evenings at 5:00pm**

- Women's Group-led by Bryson Schultz and Jessica Cooper in Cooper Building, Room A-13. (Pairs and Spares Sunday School Room) See description below.
- *What If Jesus Was Serious* -Led by Tim Marsh, John Topping, Phillip Dean, and David Corley in Bobo Hall
- Men's Group - *A Study of Romans, Part 1*-Led by Tommy Cox in the Craft Room.

### **Tuesday Mornings at 7:00am**

- Men's Group: *A Study of Romans, Part 1*-Led by Tommy Cox in Classroom A.

**Women's Group** is a multigenerational discussion group led by Bryson Schultz and Jessica Cooper. The group meets on Sunday evenings from 5:00-6:30pm in Cooper A-13 (The Pairs and Spares Sunday School Classroom.) During the fall, the group will meet every other week. The meeting dates are as follows: September 10 and 24, October 8 and 22, November 5 and 19.

## **Singing and Ringing Schedule for our Children's and Youth Choirs**

Our children and youth play an important role in leading us in worship week after week. Here is the schedule for when they will be ringing and singing this fall:

September 17	Youth Choir sings
September 24	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Graders play handbells
October 22	1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Graders sing
November 5	Youth Choir sings
November 12	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Graders play handbells
November 19	Middle School Handbell Choir plays
December 3	Preschoolers sing
December 10	High School Handbell Choir plays
December 17	1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> graders & Youth Choir sing Christmas Music with Adult Choir

## **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!

**FBC Golf Fellowships** continue in September on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:tommy@fbclaurens.org) or call 984-7500. Registration deadline is 5pm the day before each round.



- Trunk or Treat candy donations are now being accepted! You may drop your treats in the box outside of the church office. Thank you for your willingness to contribute to this church-wide, family fun event!!!
- Are you a ping-pong pro? Now's your chance to earn bragging rights! Sign up today for the Ping Pong Tournament on September 22, beginning at 6:30pm!
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders: If you participate in our Tuesday activities, you'll be playing handbells in worship on September 24<sup>th</sup>! We'll practice together that morning at 9:00!

### Student Ministry News

- We're back in full swing! We've had great starts to both our Wednesday and Sunday night programming and we're looking forward to a great Fall Semester

#### Dates

- Sept. 23 - Carowinds/Scarowinds Trip
- Sept. 29 - 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter at FBC/Straight Street

## RECREATION MINISTRY

Who is ready to show their skills on the tables!? After a multi-year hiatus the FBC Ping Pong Tournament is back! Friday, September 22, come out and show you've got what it takes to be the best. We'll recognize winners in the Children, Youth, and Adult divisions and one Grand Champion! \$10 entry fee enters you in the bracket and buys you dinner for the evening, proceeds go to update some of our recreation equipment. Register today on Realm or by contacting Andrew

### Trip to The Holy Land - March 11-21, 2024

My recent trip to the Holy Land was the most meaningful trip I have ever taken. Scripture is so much clearer to me after seeing so many of the places where Jesus traveled and ministered. I'm going back again in March! 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

### 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:

Aug 28-Sept 3	Elizabeth Franklin	803-960-9099
September 4-10	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631
September 11-17	Tim Marsh	828-755-1616
September 18-24	Tommy Cox	864-684-7424
Sept 25-Oct 1	Andrew Corley	864-923-5841

### THE TIE

First Baptist Church  
 300 West Main St  
 Laurens, SC 29360

### NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

### Financial Record - August 2023

August Needs:	\$88,076.92
August Giving:	\$123,105.99
2023 Needs to Date:	\$748,653.82
2023 Giving to Date:	\$768,849.95

## Meet our New Member!



Milly Wiggins, daughter of  
 Matthew & Brantley Wiggins

### Get Connected in Sunday School!

FBC Laurens can sometimes feel like a big place, but Sunday School provides a wonderful opportunity for us to connect and study the Bible together in a smaller community. We offer a wide variety of Sunday School classes for people of all ages. If you are looking for a Sunday School class, please contact Tommy Cox at (864)984-7500 or [tommy@fbclaurens.org](mailto:tommy@fbclaurens.org). We would love to help you find a place to connect!