

HEART



SOUL



MIND



STRENGTH


# THE TIE

NOVEMBER 2023

**SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOEBOXES  
DUE NOVEMBER 16!**



# NOVEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Wednesday Activities See Below Andy West Barry Martin	2 Steve Crow Rhett Rinaca	3 Mary Alice Ramey	4 Tim Marsh
5 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Harvest Offering Youth Choir: Sing 5pm Women's Group Sunday Activities: See Below Betty S Cox Mel Patterson	6 4pm Martha Franks Fellowship Ellen Reynolds Carter Mitchell	7 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Missions, Music & Rec Johnnie Bolt Barrett Holmes	8 Wednesday Activities See Below Alison Rawl Joey McCord Nancy Fowler	9 5:30 Grief: Surviving the Holidays in Bobo Hall Til Culbertson Jackie Burns Bill Craig	10 Bradley Madden Tara Dean Walter Chandler Julie Griffin	11 Darlene Curry
12 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Bell Choir Plays 5pm Women's Group Sunday Activities: See Below	13 Allyson Sherer Carson Jenkins	14 11am CWA's 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Missions, Music & Rec Jimmy Chandler	15 Wednesday Activities See Below	16 Shoeboxes Are Due 5:30 Grief: Surviving the Holidays in Bobo Hall 2pm Knitting Group Kirby Martin	17 Tommy Curry Hadden Martin	18 Lauren Luiz
19 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Middle School Bell Choir Plays 5pm Women's Group Sunday Activities: See Below	20 7pm Deacons' Meeting John Yarbrough	21 No 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Missions, Music & Rec	22 No Wednesday Activities	23 Jennifer Young Matthew Wilkie	24 Anna Nance Reynolds Dylan Brink	25 Joey Hair
26 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship - vote on Budget and Committees Pizza after church and decorate for Christmas	27 Walt Addy Russell Dean Matthew McCord	28 No 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Missions, Music & Rec Gail Ricard Cathy Sherer	29 5pm Preschool & 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> grade choir practice 5:30pm Polar Express Movie Night Madelyn Orcutt	30 		

## Sundays

9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00-7:30pm Youth Study, Music, Supper	5pm Men's Group 5pm Adult Study	5-6pm Wednesday Night 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
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*Dear Church Family and Friends,*

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. (Philippians 4:4-8, NIV)

As I write to you, it is so hard to believe that 2023 is nearing the end! It seems as if the year has flown by! So much has happened this year!

November is a month that we all associate with Thanksgiving. Of course, we do not celebrate Thanksgiving until the end of the month – Thursday, November 23rd, if you are counting down the days! However, many people I know set aside the entire month of November to express gratitude for God's blessings in our lives. Some like to post a blessing each day on Facebook. Others might devote their daily prayers toward gratitude for blessings. Through whatever means you choose, will consider practicing gratitude during the month of November?

As you may recall, the first Thanksgiving was celebrated jointly between 53 Pilgrim survivors and 90 Native Americans in October 1621 following the Pilgrims' first harvest in their new colony. Their first winter was brutal, claiming over half of the Pilgrims who made the journey to establish a new colony. With the help of the Native Americans, the survivors learned to plant, hunt, and prepare for the brutal winters ahead. To celebrate God's blessings, they held a three-day festival, enjoying the fruits of their labor, giving thanks to God.

Gratitude is important. It is not that God needs us to be grateful. Rather, we need to be grateful. It is good for both our mental and spiritual health. Gratitude helps us to focus on what we have, not what we do not have. It helps us to see the good, even in the midst of the bad. Gratitude reminds us of the source of our blessings. All good things come from God. And, gratitude for what we have helps us to have compassion for those who do not have what we have.

This November, please consider your blessings. God has blessed us all with time, with talents, and with treasures. Like the original Pilgrims, may we too give back to God out of gratitude for the blessings that he has given to us!

*Grace and peace,  
Tim*

### **Grief: Surviving the Holidays**

One of the most difficult times for many people are the holidays. When we have 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 for people who are grieving a loved one's death and 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, and the dates are as follows:

- Thursday, November 9 from 5:30-7:30 in Bobo Hall
- Thursday, November 16 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](mailto:tommy@fbclaurens.org).

### **2023 Holiday Schedule for Sunday School:**

Sunday School will meet on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, which is November 26. Sunday School will not meet on Sunday, December 24, or Sunday, December 31. (Morning Worship only on these Sundays).

## **Church Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday November 23 & 24**



### **CWAs**

CWAs, our group of Senior Adults, will meet on Tuesday, November 14 at 11:00 in Bobo Hall. Dawn Ardel, Director of the Safe Home in Laurens County, will be our guest speaker. Our traditional Thanksgiving meal will be provided by Lee's Barbecue. The cost of the meal will be \$10. Please call the church office to sign up or sign up on the pew pads this Sunday!



## November

- November 14 — Grade 1-5 Shoebox Packing Party (last Tuesday MMR for 2023)
- November 15 — Preschool Shoebox Packing Party
- November 16 — All shoeboxes due!
- November 29 — Polar Express Movie Night following choir practice! Check your email for details! Join us for pizza, card and cookie decorating, and hot chocolate!



## Student Ministry News

- Mark Your Calendars!!!! Saturday, November 18, our Student Ministry is sponsoring a Chili Cook Off. Think you've got the best Chili in the church? Now's your chance to prove it. \$25 gets your chili/soup entered into the competition. Want to judge? \$10 gets you your judging slip. Just want to come out and enjoy a time of fellowship and some great food? We'd love to have you as well! All proceeds go to help with the cost of youth summer trips. For more information scan the QR code or contact Andrew!



## Wednesday Night Suppers in November!

During the month of November, we will offer Wednesday Night meals, beginning at 5:00 PM, in the Family Life Center! We are trying to gauge congregational interest before deciding to resume Wednesday Night Meals permanently.

### Caterer/Menu

- November 1 - Til Culbertson: Spaghetti Pie, Salad & Drink
- November 8 - Lee's BBQ: Chicken Tenders, Mac & Cheese, Salad & Drink
- November 15 - Til Culbertson: Taco Salad, Dessert & Drink

### Prices are:

- Adults (6<sup>th</sup> grade and up) \$8.00
- Children (3 years-5<sup>th</sup> grade) \$5.00
- Children 2 and under are free

### To make your reservations:

- Sign up on the pew pads
- Call the church office
- Sign up on Realm - **Bonus: you can pay when you sign up!**

**Important: reservations must be made by Noon on Mondays**

## 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 30-Nov 5	Andrew Corley	864-923-5841
November 6-12	Tim Marsh	828-755-1616
November 13-19	Elizabeth Franklin	803-960-9099
November 20-26	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631
Nov 27-Dec 3	Tommy Cox	864-684-7424

## THE TIE

First Baptist Church  
 300 West Main St  
 Laurens, SC 29360

## NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. Postage Paid  
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## Financial Record - October 2023

October Needs:	\$110,096.15
October Giving:	\$76,542.37
2023 Needs to Date:	\$946,826.89
2023 Giving to Date:	\$925,479.68

## Christmas Music

Our special Christmas music called, *Glory*, will be Sunday, December 17 during our morning worship service. The music will include the Children's Choirs, Youth Choir and Adult Choir.

## Martha Franks Fellowship

Our monthly fellowship time for our church family who are Martha Franks residents will be Monday, November 6, at 4:00 in the Martha Franks Chapel.

## Parking at First Baptist Church

- **Be a good neighbor!** Please do not park in the Presbyterian lot on Sunday mornings!
- **Be a good friend!** The small lot beside the gym is reserved for handicap parking on Sunday mornings.