

***in*FOCUS e-Newsletter for September 2, 2018**

What's in this Issue?

- Page 1** Sunday Schedule for September 2
Starting Point Class, September 9
Project Prayer: Adopt a Teacher
- Page 2** Life Way Update
Wednesday Schedule for September 5
The Full Wednesday Schedule
Sunday Schedule for September 9
2018 Israel Trip Update
Women's Ministry Update
- Future Women's Ministry Opportunities
- Page 3** The STUDENT Section
- Wednesday Nights
 - Sunday Morning Structure
- Children's Ministry Update
- GAK and Mission Friends
 - Family Bible Scavenger Hunt
 - Children's Worship Ministry
- Page 4** Attendance Recap from Past Week
Focus on Giving for August 26
Operation Christmas Child
One More Thing

****See below for details on each of these items****

Sunday Schedule for September 2

- 8:45 a.m.** Small Groups and Sunday School
Here (<http://fbccenterton.org/about-us/small-groups>) is a list of our Groups for Adults
- 10:00 a.m.** Worship
- 2:00 p.m.** Open Gym

Starting Point Class, September 9

Pastor Joshua Babb will begin a "Starting Point" class **Sunday, September 9**. The six-week class will highlight the DNA of our church in faith, doctrine, practice, vision, and mission. It will meet in room **A-216**, the Library, at **8:45 a.m.** The class is for people who want to consider joining this assembly in worship and service. For more information, contact the church office at **479.795.2591**.

Project Prayer: Adopt a Teacher

We know from Scripture that our enemy, Satan, is working to destroy us (1 Peter 5:8). He would like nothing more than to start with our most precious—our children and teens. This truth puts school teachers who stand for Christ each day on the very real front lines of the spiritual battle. We want to invite our church family to join us in supporting our teachers in prayer by adopting a Life Way Christian School or other local school teacher to pray for and encourage regularly throughout the school year! On Sundays, **August 26** and **September 2**, **Dwight** and **Jenifer Siemens** will be stationed in the foyer and visiting small group classes to match individual teachers with prayer partners. Thank you for considering being a part of Project Prayer: Adopt-A-Teacher! *"With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints."* Ephesians 6:18

Life Way Update

It has been a great start to Life Way's 19th year of educating young people for Christ. Last week the high school introduced the Tribal system which involved placing each student in one of four tribes. The purpose for this system is to encourage comradery, team work, spirit, competition, and mentorship. Other highlights have been welcoming new students, the kick-off of chapels, and just seeing students back together again. Academically we continue to see students set apart as we received ACT information which placed Life Way students well above the local, state, and national norms. All in all, God has blessed Life Way, and we are thankful for all that He has done and continues to do.

Here are a few upcoming events on the calendar:

- **Tuesday, September 4**—Home Volleyball game at 5:00 p.m.
- **Friday, September 7**—Grandparents' Day
- **October 15-20**—Class trips to New Life Ranch, Dallas, College tours, Washington DC, and New York City
- **November 29**—Choir Concert
- **December 6**—Band Concert
- **December 7-8**—Drama Presentation

Thank you for your continued prayers and support and if you would ever want to be a part of what is happening at Life Way, please let us know.

Wednesday Schedule for September 5

- **Wednesday Night Meal Menu**—Pizza, salad, dessert; (Menu is subject to change, so watch our Facebook page for updates and corrections:) ([facebook.com/firstbaptistchurchcenterton/](https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistchurchcenterton/)) Adults—\$5; Children (6th grade & under)—\$3; Family Max—\$20.
- **Pastor Joshua Babb** will lead the Adult Bible Study at **6:30 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. Our Students (7th–12th grades), children (K–6th grades), and Mission Friends (three and four year olds) will meet at **6:00 p.m.** All groups will dismiss at **7:30 p.m.**

The Full Wednesday Schedule

Our Fall schedule for ministries began on August 22 and will meet on the following schedule:

- 5–6:00 p.m.** Family Night Meal, Student Worship Choir
- 6–7:30 p.m.** Nursery, Mission Friends, God's Amazing Kids [GAK], Student Night of Worship, and Adult Worship Choir
- 6:30–7:30 p.m.** Adult Bible Study
- 7:00–8:00 p.m.** Orchestra Rehearsal

Sunday Schedule for September 2

- 8:45 a.m.** Small Groups and Sunday School
Here (<http://fbccenterton.org/about-us/small-groups>) is a list of our Groups for Adults
- 10:00 a.m.** Worship
- 2:00 p.m.** Open Gym

2018 Israel Trip Update

It's not too late to join **Gary & Anita Burney** as they lead a trip to Israel **December 3-12** this year. They still have room for a few more couples and a few more singles. If you are interested in going or have questions, please contact them at anitaburney@outlook.com or visit www.trektoisrael.weebly.com for more details.

Women's Ministry Update

For more information, contact the church office. Phone: 479.795.2591

Email: info@fbccenterton.org

- **Future Women's Ministry Opportunities**
 - **Tuesday Table**—September 11 at 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Bring a light finger food or dessert and hear a testimony from women in our church.

- **Craft Time**—November 10 at 8:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. We are creating a Christmas craft, and the cost is \$10.00 per person. Bring a light snack food to share. Registration is now available through CCB. Just click **here**: <https://myfbc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/154/responses/new>.
- **Ladies Fall Retreat 2018**—Save **October 5-6**: A weekend of Biblical teaching open to ALL women of FBC Centerton. Registration coming soon.
- If you are not receiving email updates please contact the church office to be added to the women's ministry group.

The STUDENT Section

For more information, contact the church office. Phone: 479.795.2591

Email: students@fbccenterton.org; Website: www.fbccenterton.org.

- **Wednesday nights (beginning August 29)**
Wednesday nights for students this fall will have the same components, but they will be rearranged. Following the meal in the Fellowship Hall, the Student Center will be open for games and fellowship. At **6:15 p.m.**, the students' worship service will begin. After worship concludes at **7:00 p.m.**, the students can enjoy extended fellowship by participating in a group activity/competition.
 - 5:00 p.m.** Fellowship Meal
 - 6:15 p.m.** Worship Service
 - 7:00 p.m.** Group Activity
- **Sunday Morning Structure**—Sunday mornings will have a slightly different format beginning **September 2**. We will begin with a brief rally time with all students at **8:35 a.m.** that will include singing, praying, and a quick preview of the focus points that will be discussed in the small groups. Parents, you are invited to participate in this rally time to pray for your children before you go to your small group. After small group teaching time, the students will reassemble to go over that morning's focus points again and to pray with/for each other. After the post-breakout rally, the students will gather with the larger body of Christ at FBC Centerton for worship.
- **Student Ministry Fall Retreat** -We are planning a Pastor-led Fall Retreat for **Friday, September 28** – **Sunday morning September 30**. A registration form and more details will be coming soon.

Children's Ministry Update

Laura Tidwell, Director of Childhood Ministries, Phone: 479.883.2137

Email: ltidwell@lwcsar.com

- **GAK and Mission Friends**—Thank you to all who came out for our first night back to GAK and Mission Friends! We loved getting to know your kids! This year our Bible study is called "To Be Like Jesus." Students will study 19 specific commands of Scripture that highlight how they can love God most and become more like him such as worshiping God, being merciful, rejoicing in persecution, being a humble servant and serving God with their abilities.
Each month we want each child to memorize a Bible verse, and this month our verse is Revelation 4:11: "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created."
Every year, GAK and Mission Friends participate in **Operation Christmas Child**. Operation Christmas Child (OCC) is a mission project of Sanitarian's Purse that seeks to distribute shoe-boxes full of gifts for children around the world who may never receive a gift. The gifts also create opportunities to share the gospel with the children who receive the gifts. We will have a shoe-box "packing party" in November, but we start collecting items to pack in the boxes as soon as GAK starts for the year. **The month of September we will collect school supplies.** Beginning next Wednesday, there will be a collection box at the check-in desk where you can drop any school supplies you would like to donate to this worthy cause. Thanks for helping us with our fall mission project!
- **Family Bible Scavenger Hunt**—Our Second Annual Family Bible Scavenger Hunt will be on **Sunday, Sept. 30**. Last year, we crowned the **Lamp/Wingard Family** as our champions. Which family will win the big prizes this year? Bring your family and your Bible and come join us from **4:00-5:30 p.m.** as we search through the scriptures and race around the church campus finding clues! Snacks and drinks will be served.
- **Children's Worship Ministry**—Our worship ministry is expanding this fall! If you'd like to be part of our preschool through 6th grade Worship Arts Ministry (WAM Jr. and WAM Kids) as a leader or a

volunteer, join us for a planning meeting Wednesday, **August 29**, at **5:15** in Building C. For more information, contact **Jessica Colley** at 479-200-6783 or jessicacolley@outlook.com.

Attendance Recap from Past Week

Connect Groups August 20–August 26)	48
Sunday Small Groups.....	340
Sunday AM Worship Gathering	447

Focus on Giving for August 26, 2018

General Fund:

Weekly Average Need	\$28,089.00
Weekly Receipts	\$25,985.05

Designated Funds:

World Mission Weekly Receipts	\$1,045.00
World Mission YTD	\$32,431.18
Building Forward Balance	\$38,821.07
Seattle.....	\$1,287.00
Walkers in Ecuador.....	\$622.00
Lord’s Supper Benevolence Offering	\$619.00

Operation Christmas Child

Take an ordinary shoe box, fill it with toys and other gifts, and you have an extraordinary gift for a child in need of joy and hope. Most have heard of **Franklin Graham’s Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child**. It is time to begin compiling those gifts that will fill a shoe box for a child in one of the far-flung corners of the world. Most importantly, these shoe boxes provide opportunities to tell children about the love of Jesus Christ. Items you might include: small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, sewing kits for girls, tools for boys. A collection point will soon appear in the Atrium for your donations. Until then, we are ready to receive your donations in the church office.

One More Thing

For the past 15 years, as editor of *inFOCUS* (most of those years) and of the *inFOCUS eNewsletter*, I have had the opportunity to add my thoughts to articles and issues that I believed needed a little more (or less) information in order to point our church family in the direction our pastors were leading. After our vacation this weekend, I will have just four more issues to influence these words. So, here goes.

It would not be honest to tell you that Barb and I plan to stay in Northwest Arkansas and at First Baptist Church Centerton in our retirement years. That is so for two reasons. First, our children and grandchildren are in Tennessee and Kentucky. When economic conditions are right, it will be a huge temptation to say, “The time is right. Let’s go.” Second, retired pastors who have joined our congregation, and serving deacons have continued to step up and take on roles previously handled by me. For that we should all be grateful. They are working with other volunteers who love the servant roles they fill to minister through the Tabitha Team, Apple Creek, and Upward Sports in ways that leave us free to leave when other commitments are completed.

At the same time, we also feel free to stay to continue to serve the Lord Jesus with you to reach Centerton and the world through the ministries and missions we conduct from this local base of operations for the Kingdom of God. That is not a “job thing.” It is a church membership thing. We are your brother and sister in Christ, parts of the His body, and united in the fellowship of the Spirit. We will continue to serve with you as long as the Lord allows us to remain in Northwest Arkansas. Thank you for all you have contributed to our joy in serving you.

Yours/His,
Pastor Bob Metcalf