

***in*FOCUS e-Newsletter for September 16, 2018**

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

Sunday Schedule for September 16

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

Life Way Update

Here are a few upcoming events on the calendar:

- **October 15-20**—Class trips to New Life Ranch, Dallas, College tours, Washington DC, and New York City
- **November 15 & 16**—Preschool Thanksgiving program
- **November 29**—Choir Concert
- **December 6**—Band Concert
- **December 7-8**—Drama program presents, *It's a Wonderful Life*

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 19

- **Wednesday Night Meal Menu**—Beef Stroganoff, vegetable, salad, roll, 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 ministries meet on the following Wednesday 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 23

- 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

Worship Arts Ministry (WAM)

The Worship Ministry has several ways to disciple and give our church family the opportunity for ministry. Beginning Sunday afternoon, **October 7**, from **4:30 to 6:00**, we will offer an age-graded, worship discipleship ministry for children and students. It is our **Worship Arts Ministry (WAM)** where **children** and **students** will learn WHY we sing, HOW to sing, and how to use all forms of musicianship to share the Gospel. Participants will be able to choose from several different “tracks” of interest.

Scripture tells us to, “Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God” (Colossians 3:16). I hope you will join us as we seek to be obedient and see this command lived out in our children and students. For more information concerning the Worship Arts Ministry, please contact the church office at **479.795.2591**.

Women's Ministry Update

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

Email: info@fbccenterton.org

- **Future Women’s Ministry Opportunities**

- **Ladies Fall Retreat 2018**—On **October 5 & 6** we will have a retreat here in the Student Center. We will meet on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m.–8:45 p.m. and return Saturday morning for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and finish around 11:15 a.m. The online registration is open at this link: <https://myfbc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/156/responses/new>. We want to make the retreat easy for all women to attend, so we are giving you the option of staying in your own home Friday night or going to a host home. If you are interested in hosting ladies in your home for Friday night, please contact **Laura Snowden** at 479.903.1148.
- **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>**.
- 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**

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
- 6:10 p.m. Worship Service
- 7:00 p.m. Group Activity

- **Student Ministry Fall Retreat**—We are planning a Pastor-led Fall Retreat for **Friday, September 28 – Saturday September 29**. The theme for the weekend is *Believe Something*. We want to communicate to students that the content of what we believe is extremely important. Just believing in

something is not enough; we need to believe in the right something—the gospel. The cost is \$55 per student, and they can register at this link: <https://myfbc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/157/responses/new>

Children’s Ministry Update

Laura Tidwell, Director of Childhood Ministries, Phone: 479.883.2137

Email: ltidwell@lwcsar.com

- **GAK and Mission Friends**– 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.”

Has your child memorized our monthly GAK Bible verse yet? If so, **send me a fun video of your child reciting the verse!** Maybe he can recite it while he jumps on the trampoline. Perhaps she can recite it while she stands on her head? The more creative the better! **I'll post some favorite videos on our social media sites and the most liked/commented post of the month will win a Chic-fil-A gift card!**

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.

Attendance Recap from Past Week

Connect Groups September 3–September 9)	43
Sunday Small Groups.....	296
Sunday AM Worship Gathering	384

Focus on Giving for September 9, 2018

General Fund:

Weekly Average Need	\$28,089.00
Weekly Receipts	\$30,749.08

Designated Funds:

World Mission Weekly Receipts.....	\$625.35
World Mission YTD	\$33,742.53
Building Forward Receipts.....	\$100.00
Building Forward Balance	\$38,861.07
Walkers in Ecuador	\$570.00
Seattle.....	\$250.00
Benevolence Offering	\$10.00

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

God has been good to me in so many ways that it is hard to single out one or even a handful for mention before I retire in two weeks. This one is fresh on my mind. **David and Betty Bice** gave me a second chance to minister to the “least of these.” In so doing, I returned to a biblical assignment I had once suppressed or ignored. Just a partial list of what the Bices have done in service to the Lord through this church provides us with an example of Christian service that is worth copying: Betty served as the leader of our **Women on Mission’s** organization, they both served as **FAITH** team leaders and are consistent witnesses for the Lord, **Nursery and Children’s ministry volunteers**, **Wednesday night Family Fellowship meal greeters**, and always available to help with **VBS, Backyard Bible Clubs, Fall Festival and FourthFest**.

With my early focus on mission projects, Sunday School, and FAITH, I confess to everyone that I had tunnel vision away from aiming our mission strategies at *children* around the world. They did not increase attendance here, and they did not build churches in the far-flung shoebox-delivery corners of the world.

However, because of the many times the Bices have served this church, when the **Barfields** and **Bices** teamed up to take the lead with **Operation Christmas Child**, I began to personally respond (as a packer at first, and finally as a promoter and advocate of this ministry) because the Bices believed it to be effective. Now I understand the impact these shoeboxes have when missionaries and evangelists strategize the delivery and follow-up on each community. My first attitude was sinful. I have repented and stand ready to bless more children this year because of this grace extended through the Bices. **Thank you David and Betty**. I suspect there are others among us who would like to thank the Bices before they return to the Louisiana mission field from whence they came. This is **their last Sunday** with us before they head to Louisiana. They say they are packed and ready to go. They need nothing to complete their preparation. So in their honor, I intend to set an example by preparing more OCC shoeboxes than ever before this Fall. Will you join me?

That’s one more thing I needed to say.
Pastor Bob Metcalf