

Sunday Small Groups is to  
**TEACH** the Bible to change lives  
**REACH** the lost with the Good News of Jesus Christ and  
**CARE** for people through prayer, ministry and fellowship.



04-14-2024  
 Attendance 256  
 Visitors 5  
 Enrollment 521

**WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL**

Please submit your reservation by noon Tuesday before the meal on Wednesday.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday, April 24  
 5:15 pm to 6:00 pm

Spaghetti, Corn, Salad, & Bread

Alternate Choice:  
 Chicken Tenders & Fries

\_\_\_\_\_ Regular meal plate

\$4.50 per plate

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken tenders & fries

\$3.00 per plate

\_\_\_\_\_ Yearly reservation

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer to make reservations on a weekly basis.

Payment is expected for cancellations after Tuesday, 12:00 pm.



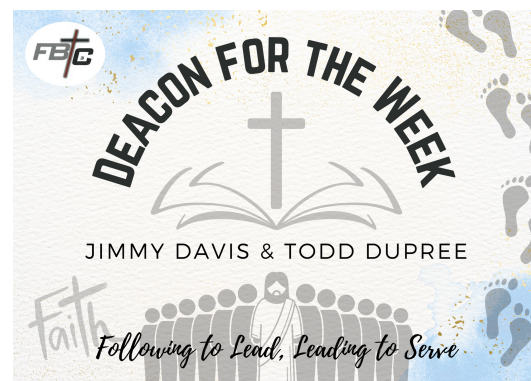
May All Who Come Behind  
 Us Find Us Faithful

**Upcoming:**  
**Hofwyl Plantation**  
**May 2**

**Sign up has begun!**  
**We are asking you to pay the \$6.50 ticket fee when you sign up.**

**Looking forward to a fun trip!**

**Looking Ahead:**  
**Legacy Luncheons**  
**June 13 & August 8**



**Keith Rustin**  
 Pastor  
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**Jeff Dykes**  
 Minister to Young Adults & Missions  
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**Jamie Davis**  
 Next Generation Pastor  
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**Danielle Cripe**  
 Ministry Assistant  
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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
 101 South Second Street  
 Cochran, GA 31014-6806

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday, April 21  
 8:30 am  
 Worship Service, Fellowship Hall  
 9:45 am  
 Sunday Morning Small Group  
 11:00 am  
 Worship Service, Sanctuary

Aspire Women's Event  
 Tickets will be available at the door.  
 VIP - doors open at 4 pm  
 General admission - doors open at 4:30 pm  
 Events starts at 5 pm

Wednesday, April 24  
 5:15 pm  
 Wednesday Fellowship Meal,  
 Fellowship Hall  
 5:30 pm  
 Youth Pizza & Fellowship,  
 The Summit  
 6:30 pm  
 Prayer & Bible Study,  
 Fellowship Hall  
 Adult Choir Practice, Choir Room  
 Youth @ The Summit  
 The 56 - Preteen Ministry  
 Children's Music & Missions,  
 Multipurpose Room

Non-Profit Org  
 U.S. Permit Pd.  
 Permit No. 2  
 Cochran, GA 31014

TITLE FIRST LAST  
 ADDRESS  
 CITY, STATE ZIP



**First Baptist Church Cochran**  
**April 17, 2024**  
**Vol. 61, No. 16**

ONE NIGHT • 3 HOURS • 3 NATIONAL SPEAKERS / COMEDY / WORSHIP

Aspire

Author & Bible Teacher  
 MELISSA SPOELSTRA

Comedy by  
 MICHELLE MILLER

Music by  
 MIA KOEHNE

HERE AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
 Sunday, April 21, 2024  
 5:00pm Show

WWW.ASPIREWOMENSEVENTS.COM

**Tickets will be available at the door.**  
**Doors open at 4:30 pm.**  
**Event starts at 5 pm!**

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There are seasons when I struggle with praying. Not so much the discipline of prayer but I struggle to know how/what to pray. I crave times of communion with God. I look forward to the holy quietness of simply being in my Father's presence; the silence of my prayer closet is a powerful experience for me. So I find myself hesitant to form and speak words into those holy moments of fellowship...not wanting to say things that are inconsistent with what God is actually seeing in my heart.

MercyMe released a song in 2002 called "Word of God Speak" and the lyrics of the song have always resonated with my heart, most especially these: *"I'm finding myself at a loss for words...and the funny thing is it's okay...the last thing I need is to be heard...but to hear what You would say...I'm finding myself in the midst of You...beyond the music, beyond the noise...all that I need is to be with You...and in the quiet hear Your voice."*

My desire for prayer is strong and passionate, a craving deep within my soul. And while true that it is sometimes okay to be at a loss for words in the place of prayer, I also know that conversation is a two-way street...my Father wants to hear my heart, He wants me to trust His love in airing my soul, He wants me to speak words out of the turmoil of all that is rumbling around in the secret places of my mind and spirit. Now, finding words to pray for the needs of other people? No problem! In fact, I would rather offer words on behalf of the needs of other people than work at trying to form words to adequately and honestly express the tumult of my own heart and life.

For those of you getting ready to text me a link to Romans 8:26-27, don't bother! Trust me when I tell you I have struggled to grasp the full meaning of those verses for many years, especially as it applies to my personal experience of prayer. I absolutely believe there are times in prayer when I truly do not know what to pray and I know that the Holy Spirit translates my unspeakable and unknowable passions to my Father; I also know that I have used this verse to excuse myself from baring my soul to my Father because I was ashamed to hear spoken out loud what He was exposing in my heart. It is a daunting thing to speak words I hope are truthful in the presence of the One who is absolute truth; I cannot hedge on my sins, I cannot claim as need something that is borne of want, I cannot gloss over pride or ambition, I cannot hide my disgruntlement with God for failing to intervene in my circumstances in the fashion and time frame that I had been expecting. Yep, it's much easier to just focus on speaking words on behalf of other people — intercessory prayer is not nearly so personal as speaking to God about my own heart!!

So there's a thing I do when I'm finding it difficult to form my own words of prayer: I borrow words from other people. Like Jesus. The prayer Jesus taught (we call it the Lord's prayer) is often a gateway into deeper, personal conversation with my Father. Here are a couple of other prayers I use in my personal meditations with God when I find myself clinging to the silence even as God is inviting me into dialogue...

*"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Father, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; not so much to be understood as to understand; not so much to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, it is in dying that we awake to eternal life."* Francis of Assisi

*"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him forever and ever in the next."* Reinhold Neibuhr

I hope you are learning that the realization of Matthew 6:25-34 (look it up!), and every other biblical truth, is first nurtured in your conversations with your Father. So pray on...and use words, too! Grace & peace, love you. PK.

Join us for a  
**Baby Boy Shower**  
 in honor of  
**Bethany Kletcke Turner**  
 April 20, 2024  
 10:00 am - 11:30 am  
 First Baptist Church Foyer  
 101 S. 2nd Street  
 Cochran, GA 31014  
 Registered at [baby1st.com](http://baby1st.com)

**SACRED ROOTS FARM**  
 Ministry Project  
 APRIL 16-17, 2024  
 PROJECT GOAL:  
 NEEDS: \$6,000  
 RECEIVED: \$8,000  
 THANK YOU FOR ALL THE LOVE, CARE AND SUPPORT  
 YOU HAVE SHOWN TO SACRED ROOTS!  
 THANKS TO ALL OF YOU, WE HAVE SURPASSED OUR GOAL!

WHAT'S NEW?  
**AWANA TRAINING**  
 For Leaders, Volunteers, Parents, or Future Volunteers  
 April 28, 2024 - 12:30-3:30 pm  
 Fellowship Hall

THE FLOWERS PLACED  
 IN THE SANCTUARY,  
 SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024  
 ARE GIVEN BY:  
 KATHY CHRISTIAN  
 IN MEMORY OF:  
 MR. EDWARD HOWELL'S  
 BIRTHDAY

WITH CHRISTIAN  
**Sympathy**  
 To the family of Yvonne Davis  
 To the family of Joe Fisher  
 To the family of Joe Hobbs,  
 Todd Dupree's step-father

**HOFWYL PLANTATION**  
 Day Trip - May 2  
 SIGN UP HAS BEGUN!  
 WE ARE ASKING YOU TO  
 PAY THE \$6.50 TICKET  
 FEE WHEN YOU SIGN UP.  
 Looking forward to a fun trip!

**CLASS OF 2024**  
 GRADUATE RECOGNITION  
 MAY 19, 2025  
 REGISTER BY MAY 5