

FROM THE PASTOR

Good Things Come to Those Who Wait

After 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, the Georgia Bulldogs have entered the Promised Land as National Champions of college football. Having suffered defeat after defeat at the hands of Pharaoh Saban in Alabama, Joshua Smart has led God's children into the land of championship trophies and overpriced merchandise, which I will certainly be purchasing!

I was 13 years old on New Year's Day in 1981 when the University of Georgia last tasted life in the Promised Land, and it feels good to be back. When I woke up Tuesday morning, I checked the news on my phone to make sure what I thought had happened had really happened, and then I joined the psalmist who calls us to "waken the dawn with our praises."

While I have gotten carried away with religious language, it is all in jest. Though I did not hear it last night, athletes will sometimes thank Jesus for the victory. As much as I love sports, I do not think Jesus determines or even cares about who wins a sporting event. I do believe Jesus celebrates with us our victories accomplished with integrity and comforts us when we experience loss. But athletic accomplishment is not the kind of "victory" Jesus gives. To believe so is to trivialize the providence and sovereignty of God in a world of profound suffering.

Because I was away at school and decided for my own safety not to spend four hours in a restaurant with yelling strangers, I had to watch the game alone in my hotel room. I was texting throughout the game with several friends, but joy is not the same when experiencing it alone. That's why God has given us to each other. Just as many of us have ended a football season in a community of broken hearts, joy is greater when shared. This is true in every area of life. And though I don't believe God influences the outcome of athletic competitions, the old adage is often true that "good things come to those who wait."

May we not have to wait another forty years. May we also follow the biblical admonition to "weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice" (Romans 12.15). Because sometimes the goodness of life just overflows. Think about it: For those of us who pull for the right teams, in a period of 70 days, we have celebrated three championships! Go Braves! Go Canes! Go Dawgs!

Members in Care Facilities

Pruitt Health (Fitzgerald): Pat Sitton Maple Court (Tifton): Virginia Hughes

Homebound Members

Homebound – Fitzgerald

June & Don Morris & Sara Phillips

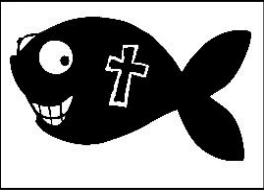
Homebound – Out of Town & State

Lois Eppes – Middleburg, FL & Lois Freeman – Newnan, GA

Prayers for Our People

Becky Anderson, Barbara Ash, Linda Braun, Carolyn H. Brown, Jean Brown, Bob Bryant, Carolyn Paul Burns, Denise Carver, Clay Childers, Deannie Cleghorn, Mike Cobb, Terry Cole, Dee Ann Dale Cook, Polly Davis, Kelly Cunningham-Dillavou, Jerry Dixon, Jessica Duncan, Patricia Ellington, Lois Eppes, Anna Etheridge, Linda Evans, Wiley Evans, Joanie W. Fox, Madelyn Futch, Susan Garcia, Charles Golf, Joe Grant, Adelaide Griffin, Kay Hannon, Peggy Hardin, Margie Harris, Patsy Hatley, Lori Hennesy, Lynn Herlovich, Trish Herlovich, Carol Howell, Virginia Hughes, Ashlynn Johnson, Deidra Stone Luke, John Michael McCall, David Malcolm, Mary Martin, Martha Maye, Wendy McFarland, Donald, Glenda Moore, Pam Morrison, Christy Perry, Jim O'Neal, Steve O'Neal, Melba Ott, Sharice Parrot, Joe Petrie, Sara Phillips, Hugh Pike, Buddy Prescott, Norma Prescott, John David Roberts, Angie & Mark Robinson, Beth Rodgers, Mike Ruffin, Sara Schell, Debbie Sherret, Hunter Sims, Pat Sitton, Lisa Wiggins Stanfill, Gage Stubbs, Kelly Sumner, Hugh Turner, Tish Taylor, Joyce Treece, Roy Thomas, Janice Ussery, Lavonda Walters Womack, Theresa Williamson, Ken Woods, Tim Woods, Ed Wynn, Kenny Young

Music and Youth Ministry News



SIGN UP NOW!! Now is the time to sign up for Youth Sunday and the Summer Youth Mission Camp. Our 2022 Summer Youth Mission Camp will be on June 12-16 at the World Golf Village. **DEADLINE** to sign up will be March 6th and a \$50 non-refundable deposit is also due on that day. Youth Sunday will be on Sunday morning, March 6th.

ALL YOUTH ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE! We will be preparing for youth Sunday on some Sunday afternoons in February. WNL and Sunday School is back in **FULL SWING** so don't miss these important weekly youth gatherings. I hope to see you this week at WNL and Sunday School with a friend!



The choir, orchestra or handbells **WILL NOT** be in the loft again until January 23rd. (at the earliest) Out of an abundance of caution, we will delay a couple of weeks before we start back those ministries. On January 23rd, the choir will sing a special that day and we will have choir rehearsal at 2pm that afternoon. Please be in prayer that our local COVID cases remain low and we can return to our new normal for worship.



Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 16, 2022, are dedicated to the glory of God and placed in loving memory of Alvin Giddens and Gary Giddens by Joyce Giddens, Johnny & Gail Giddens and family, and Betsy Giddens and family.



Offering Envelopes

These are important for accounting purposes, please let the church office know if you would like a box. If you did not find your offering envelopes on the small table in the Narthex this past Sunday, they will be in your Sunday School class. If you would like for us to move your envelopes to the

Narthex from your Sunday School class, please contact the church office, or if you are unable to attend worship at this time and need to have them mailed to you, we will be happy to do this as well.



Deacons' Meeting This Sunday

(Reminder for active Deacons)

January 16, 2022

1:30 PM

Mann Hall

Ms. Carly's Corner for KIDS

- Wednesday night activities have started back. Come join us!
- Don't forget Sunday School has resumed back in the Children's Department.
- Children's Church Volunteers for 1/16/22: Kevin and Nan Phillips.
- Children's Choir will resume Wednesday February 2ND at 5:30 in the Kid's Choir Room.



CAMP REMINDER!

We are going to Student Life Kids Camp at Shocco Springs Conference Center in Talladega, AL (June 25-28). The age range is an upcoming 3rd to completed 5th grade. The cost per child would be \$295 and this would include all meals. Scholarships will be available if needed.

Camp Deposits Due January 20th

Deposits of \$75 are due. Please let me know ASAP if you are interested. If you were not able to make it to the camp meeting Sunday let me know and I will send you more information!

HELP WANTED

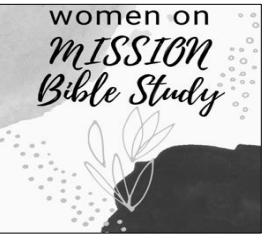
- *We are still looking for a Children's Choir Leader. Please pray for and consider leading this ministry. Let us know if you are interested.
- *We are looking for a 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday School teacher to alternate every other month. Please let me know if you are interested.

PAID NURSERY WORKER NEEDED

First Baptist Church, Fitzgerald. Sundays (9:45 am - 12:15 pm).

Wednesdays (5:30-7:00 pm - paid for two hours). \$15 per hour.

Minimum age of 18. Please send letter of interest to fbc@fbcfitz.com or First Baptist Church. P.O. Box 367. Fitzgerald, GA 31750



Women on Mission Bible Study

After a long break, the group has decided to start back meeting every third Tuesday.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

January 18, 2022

10:00 AM

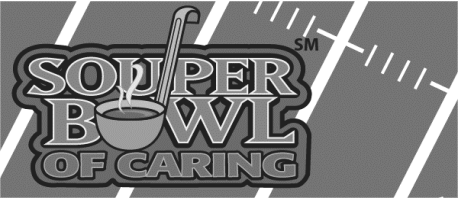
Library

Collection Sunday is

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 13!

The Christian Kitchen is currently experiencing a severe food shortage.

They are in desperate need of: cans of soup, cans of fruit preferably with pop-top opening, peanut butter & jelly and mac and cheese. PLEASE, mark your calendars NOW, plan to bring some CANNED GOODS, make sure they are not expired and \$1 or MORE donation to give to the Christian Kitchen. This is **SUPER BOWL SUNDAY**, but more importantly it is a day we can help IMPACT HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY! Between now and February 13, every time you go grocery shopping, please pick up an extra canned good or two. Let's DO IT RIGHT and give The Christian Kitchen our biggest collection ever this year!!



CHURCH CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

6:00 PM-6:45 PM..... Youth WNL, Mission Friends, RA and GA Groups*
6:00 PM-6:45 PM.....Adult Bible Study & Prayer (Sanctuary) *

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
11:00 AM.....Worship Service*
1:30 PM.....Deacon's Meeting (Mann Hall)
5:00 PM.....Women's Bible Study Group (Burch Hall)

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

Church Office will be OPEN (normal business hours)

4:15 PM.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

Newsletter Print Day
10:00 AM.....Women on Mission Bible Study(Library)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

6:00 PM-6:45 PM..... Youth WNL, Mission Friends, RA and GA Groups*
6:00 PM-6:45 PM.....Adult Bible Study & Prayer (Sanctuary) *

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

10:00 AM..... Sunday School*
11:00 AM.....Worship Service*
2:00 PM..... Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) *
5:00 PM..... Women's Bible Study Group (Burch Hall)

MONDAY, JANUARY 24

4:15 PM.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

Newsletter Print Day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

6:00 PM-6:45 PM..... Youth WNL, Mission Friends, RA and GA Groups*
6:00 PM-6:45 PM.....Adult Bible Study & Prayer (Sanctuary) *

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
11:00 AM.....Worship Service*
1:30 PM.....Deacon's Meeting (Mann Hall)
5:00 PM.....Women's Bible Study Group (Burch Hall)

MONDAY, JANUARY 31

4:15 PM.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Newsletter Print Day

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

6:00 PM-6:45 PM..... Youth WNL, Mission Friends, RA and GA Groups*
6:00 PM-6:45 PM.....Adult Bible Study & Prayer (Sanctuary) *

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

10:00 AM..... Sunday School*
11:00 AM.....Worship Service*
2:00 PM..... Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) *
5:00 PM..... Women's Bible Study Group (Burch Hall)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

1:00-6:00 PM.....American Red Cross Blood Drive (Gym)
4:15 PM.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Newsletter Print Day

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

6:00 PM-6:45 PM..... Youth WNL, Mission Friends, RA and GA Groups*
6:00 PM-6:45 PM.....Adult Bible Study & Prayer (Sanctuary)*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

10:00 AM..... Sunday School*
11:00 AM.....Worship Service*
1:30 PM.....Deacon's Meeting (Mann Hall)
2:00 PM..... Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) *
5:00 PM..... Women's Bible Study Group (Burch Hall)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

4:15 PM.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Newsletter Print Day

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

6:00 PM-6:45 PM..... Youth WNL, Mission Friends, RA and GA Groups*
6:00 PM-6:45 PM.....Adult Bible Study & Prayer (Sanctuary)*

*Nursery Staff available for these events.

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, closed all day Friday

8:30am-12:15pm (12:15-1:30 closed for lunch & office errands) 1:30pm-5pm

Our Stewardship Review

Dec 26 through Dec 31

Weekly Budget Required	\$11,574.06
Weekly Budget Received	\$39,308.38
Weekly Designated Funds Received: (World Hunger).....	\$100.00
(Lottie Moon).....	\$40.00
(Christian Kitchen).....	\$8.00
(Gideons).....	\$20.00
(Misc. Temp.*KY Tornado Victims).....	\$600.00
(Sportsman's SS Class).....	\$500.00

What happens today will happen
for a reason ~ let your heart receive
every moment of it with joy.

Church Staff

Pastor.....	Greg Pope
Minister of Music & Youth.....	Blane Jacobs
Administrative Assistant.....	Dana Luckie
Director of Children's Activities.....	Carly Harper
Custodian.....	Jeffrey Morgan
Housekeeping.....	Antoinette Hill
Church Organist.....	Barbara Jacobs
Church Pianist.....	Susan Spivey

Contact us at 229-423-4367 or by email at fbc@fbcfitz.com.

You can also check out church information and activities on

Our website www.fbcfitz.com.

First Baptist Church

P. O. Box 367

(402 S. Merrimac Drive)

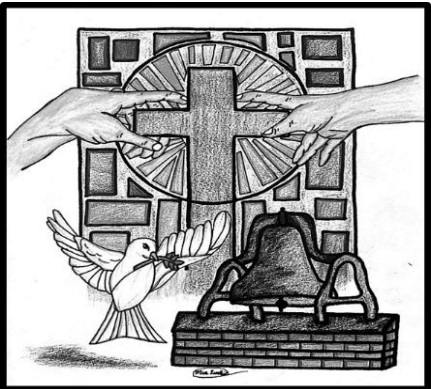
Fitzgerald, GA 31750

Return Service Requested

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Fitzgerald, GA
31750

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First Baptist
Church

OF FITZGERALD, GA.

First Baptist Church is a loving and caring Christian
community seeking to extend the open hand of God's grace to
meet the physical and spiritual needs through worship,
education, ministry, fellowship, and spiritual nurturing.

10am Sunday School
11am Worship Service
6pm Wednesday Night Service

Wednesday January 12

6:00 pm in Sanctuary

Steve O'Neal shares news about Christian Kitchen

Sunday January 16

Healing

Mark 2.1-12

A Celebration of Holy Communion

Wednesday January 19

6:00 pm in Sanctuary

Prayer and Bible Study

Introduction to the Gospel of Mark

Sunday January 23

Free

Mark 2.23-3.6

Wednesday January 26

6:00 pm in Sanctuary

Prayer and Bible Study

Mark 3.20-21

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