



September 3, 2017

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

Bob Dimmitt
Pastor
912-398-4363
bob@fabchurch.com

Tim Wade
Assoc. Pastor/
Youth
912-231-7199
tim@fabchurch.com

Church Phone:
912-355-0949
Church Fax:
912-355-4869
www.fabchurch.com

If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see the Pastor after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with the Pastor, or call the church office.

Announcements

Wednesday Night

Dinner is Spaghetti! Sign up in the hall.

Service Time Change

Beginning tonight, **September 3**, our Evening Worship service time moves back up to 6:00 p.m.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, **September 4**.

Youth Gym Night

Saturday, **September 9**, at 7:00 p.m.

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, **September 12**, 7:00 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday, **September 14**, 7:00 p.m., at the Sheffields'.

Home Fellowships

Home Fellowships are scheduled for Sunday, **September 17**. We need host homes! Contact Dawn in the office if you can help!

More announcements on p. 5

This Week at FABC

Today

Coffee Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Adult Choir Practice	4:30 p.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Dinner: Spaghetti	5:45 p.m.
Youth & Awana	6:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

FABC Deacons

Shawn Champion	433-0098
Bobby Deloach (CH)	667-8867
Mickey Fell	920-4557
Ron Fowler	901-409-8628
Jimmy Kicklighter	355-5616
Jack Moore	547-5000
Billy Morris, Sr.	398-1038
Joe Morris	398-0125
Steve Posner	704-5617
Kelly Stanford	441-2151
Michael Walker	655-2497
Ric Zittrouer	210-0344

10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

* Opening Chorus & Greeting
“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”
Words are on the back of the bulletin

* Call to Worship
Psalm 95:1-3

* Hymn #15
“Brethren, We Have Met to
Worship”

Scripture Reading & Prayer
Robert Holland
Acts 2:22-37

Special Music

Receiving of Tithes And
Offerings

* Hymn #290
“Be Still, My Soul”

Message
Bob Dimmitt
Agony & Vexation
Ecclesiastes 1:12-18, Ecclesiastes #5

* Hymn, to right
“Doxology”

6:00 p.m.

Welcome and Announcements

* Hymn #268
“How Firm a Foundation”

Prayer

Receiving of Tithes And
Offerings

Hymn #308
“Higher Ground”

Hymn #393
“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Message
Bob Dimmitt
No Loose Cannons
Ephesians 5:1-6, Ephesians #9

* Hymn, bulletin p. 7
“Jude Doxology”

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings
flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen

* All those who are able, please stand.

Agony & Vexation Ecclesiastes #5 Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

“revealed religion” that is what Christianity is

Starting with himself and ending with himself man cannot discover, and cannot grasp the meaning of life. He knows, he believes it's there but apart from God's intervening, revelation, and knowledge from God, man is left holding on to air.

...mortal man, with all his high qualities, deep thoughts, great wisdom, and all his numerous works, achievements, pleasures and enjoyments, are but a “melancholy apparition of smoke and vapor”.

The quest for meaning is unavoidable—it is given by God.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

Proverbs 1:1-7

Descartes is famous for his saying “*Cogito ergo sum*”—*I think, therefore I am*.

Koheleth, definitely, presupposes God, the one true God of the Bible.

P.M. Notes

No Loose Cannons

Ephesians #91

Ephesians 5:1-6

These self-centered vices portray selfishness and unconcern for others

“Among you you” is plural.

John Piper - Fornication should be eliminated from your life if you are a Christian. It should be shunned like a dangerous disease. For it is far more dangerous than AIDS. AIDS can only kill your body. Fornication can kill your soul.

Impurity/uncleanness = akatharsia = describes a filthiness of heart and mind that makes the person defiled. The unclean person sees dirt in everything.

Covetousness or greed = literally to have more an insatiable craving greed, consuming ambition

To jest about a thing or to make it a frequent subject of conversation is to introduce it into the mind and to bring one nearer the actual doing of it. Paul then is warning that some things are not safe even to talk or to jest about.

Senior Saints

They are going to Pooler to shop and to eat lunch at Cheddar's, on Tuesday, **September 19**. Sign the list in the hall and meet at the church at 9:15 a.m.

Youth Event

STAND '17 is a community-wide event that our youth plan to attend. Tim Wade has more details. Youth, please meet here at the church at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, **September 23**.

Communion

We will celebrate Communion during Morning Worship on Sunday, **September 24**.

Weekly Catechism Question

Question #17:

Did our first parents continue in the glad obedience for which they were created?

Answer:

No, but desiring to be like God, our first parents forsook the obedience of faith, ate of the forbidden tree, sinned against God, and fell from the innocence in which they were created.

Scripture:

Genesis 3:1-7; Ecclesiastes 7:29;
Romans 5:12

Flocknote

Our Church is now subscribed to Flocknote, a text and email service that will allow us to more efficiently communicate with you. We will be setting up groups for each ministry of the church so you will only receive messages for those ministries that you are personally involved in. Signing up is easy and should take only a couple of minutes, but please make sure to complete the sign-up in its entirety. To do so, please follow these simple steps.

1. Text "FABC" to 84576 (It does not matter if it is capitalized).
2. You will receive a response with a link, click the link to follow it.
3. Enter your name and email. **This is important**, otherwise we will not know who has signed up for the service.
4. Select the groups you would like to receive notifications for. Everyone should select "Congregation" but you may also select any other pertinent groups, such as "Choir", "Youth", or "AWANA Workers".
5. When you receive an email from Flocknote, click the link to verify that they have the correct email address.

You're all set! Again, this will be an invaluable tool for communication, please register at your earliest convenience. If you would like assistance, Tim would be happy to walk you through the process personally.

Christianity does not start with "Jesus saves you from your sins." It starts with "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

F. Schaeffer

Dear Friends at Ferguson,

There are no words to express what I feel in my heart for such a generous gift. I was almost speechless when I saw the amount!

It seems so little to just say thank you, but I thank you with all of my heart.

Most of all I thank you for the outpouring of love and concern that the amount of this gift represents. What an encouragement! Bob would have been so humbled.

May the Lord continue to bless you as you continue to serve our precious Lord.

Thanks again,

Pat Briley

*Thank
You*

Faith is understood in different ways in our culture today. One popular misconception of faith is that it has nothing (or very little) to do with reason or logic.

Faith is seen as not something you seek to provide evidence for or view rationally; you are simply to accept it. This kind of faith sits well in our culture as it praises personal preferences. If faith is not grounded in reason, logic and historic realities, it is simply a personal preference. Thus many believe that faith and blind faith; are the same thing.

The Bible, however, never asks for blind faith, it calls for a reasoned faith. This kind of faith is honest about questions & even personal doubts and looks for real answers. It seeks the best possible explanation and then commits to the truth.

Meet “Big Bunnie”

We have a new regular member of our Fellowship Time! Big Bunnie is a state of the art coffee brewer designed to perfectly perk a precisely pleasing cup of joe. Many of you miss our Sunday morning fellowship time because you are at home frantically finagling a first-rate firkin of java yourself. Come on over early and let Big Bunnie, with her very own dedicated power supply, serve you up a heretofore unreachable level of caffeinated (or, if you like, decaffeinated) goodness. Invite friends and family from far and wide to partake of a most palatable pot of percolated product, then, with a newly cleared head, partake of the teaching of God’s Word in both the Sunday School and Worship hours. We hope to see you at 9:00 a.m. sharp on Sunday mornings!



Music

Jude Doxology

Cam Huxford

Remember, Jesus brought you out of Egypt.
Remember, He has sought you as His people.
Remember, He has saved you from your sin.
Remember, remember Him.

Remember, Jesus brought you through the Red Sea.
Remember, mighty miracles that you have seen.
Remember, you were slaves and now are free.
Remember, that He is king.

To the only God, our savior, Jesus Christ.
Be glory, honor, power, and dominion.
Before all time, and now, and evermore!

Remember, Jesus reigns above the heavens.
He's coming, He is coming with his kingdom.
Do not forget, He is seated on the throne.
Remember what He has done.

To the only God, our savior, Jesus Christ.
Be glory, honor, power, and dominion.
Before all time, and now, and evermore.
Amen

If you take away God and the Bible the best one can hope for is expressed by neuroscientist V.S Ramachandran: "...it never ceases to amaze me that all the richness of our mental life—all our feelings, our emotions, our thoughts, our ambitions, our love lives, our religious sentiments and even what each of us regards as his or her own intimate private self-is simply the activity of these little specks of jelly in our heads, in our brains. There is nothing else." Believing and thinking like this will put one in the deepest, darkest pit in which there is no escape and no hope—this is true emptiness, I thank God I have been spared this view of life.

Bob Dimmitt

Articles

Just some stuff to ponder: “I Think, Therefore God Is”

The Cartesian Argument

In his book *Discourse on Method* Descartes starts off doubting everything so he can find the things he simply can't doubt. Trees and grass and buildings and people, sky and sea and animals. Out they go. I guess he figures they could all be just illusions.

Then he finds there is one thing he can't doubt: “I think, therefore I am.”

Hmmm. That seems almost too simple. Let me try it on myself. “I think, therefore I am.” But what if I am mistaken in thinking that I think? Well, if I'm mistaken, it is I who am mistaken, so again, I must exist.

Okay. That seems like a pretty clean argument, Now I know I exist (as if I was ever in doubt), but I wonder how that helps me know if there is a God.

Well, let's follow his argument one step further: I think I am imperfect, therefore I am imperfect.

Descartes didn't put it exactly that way, but that may be what he meant.

Okay, I know me fairly well and I know I am imperfect. I think of my lack of wisdom, my tendency to make mistakes, my sins. Yes, it appears I am imperfect. But wait! Maybe this notion that I am imperfect is wrong. Maybe I am just *imagining* that I'm imperfect. Maybe I really *am* perfect!

No, I'm afraid that doesn't work. It is self-contradictory. If I think I am imperfect but am actually perfect, then I made a mistake by thinking I'm imperfect. And if I made a mistake, then I *am* imperfect.

So, nothing else may exist, but I have established beyond any ability I have to doubt that **A**) I exist, and that **B**) I am imperfect.

But this brings up an interesting thought: I am imperfect compared to *what*? I can't be imperfect unless there is a perfect. I can't be wrong unless there is a right. I can't be lesser unless there is a greater.

So it appears there is something - *something perfect!* - that is separate from me. It can't be me, because if it was me it would be imperfect, because I am imperfect, and obviously the perfect can't be imperfect.

And what is the perfect like? Well, the Perfect must be perfect in every way I'm imperfect. While I'm sure I can't name all the ways I'm imperfect, I know my knowledge is imperfect, so the knowledge belonging to the Perfect must be complete. I also know my reasoning is imperfect, so I'm sure the Perfect thinks flawlessly. I know I'm not always good, so I know the Perfect must be utterly holy.

In fact, perhaps I should start saying, “God.”

Some thoughts on assurance of salvation: from Sinclair Ferguson's *The Whole Christ*

If Christ is not actually saving us, producing in us the obedience of faith in our struggle against the world, the flesh, and the Devil, then our confidence that He is our Savior is bound to be undermined, imperceptibly at first, but really.

This is why there is a strong link in the NT between faithfulness in the Christian walk and enjoyment of assurance.

In 1 John the author picks out 4 moral characteristics in the life of the believer that encourage assurance.

Obedience to the commands of God (1 John 2:3-4; 5:1-3). Genuine assurance goes hand in hand with authentic commandment keeping. Faith works by love; love expresses itself in obedience. The “obedience of faith” attests the reality of faith.

Genuine faith attests itself in righteous living. John also teaches us that we are confirmed in the reality of our regeneration by the fruits produced in us by the Spirit, by a personal character that is consistent with the new family ethos into which we have been born (1 John 2:29).

Assurance is confirmed by not sinning. When reading John one cannot avoid his conclusion that a radical breach with sin is the inevitable consequence of life in Christ and the evidence that assures us of faith (1 John 5:18).

Walking in love is so much a hallmark of regeneration that it confirms the presence of faith (1 John 3:14, 18).

It is important to stress that it is belief (in Christ) that gives rise to obedience, not obedience giving rise to assurance irrespective of believing.

Inconsistent Christian living leads to lack of assurance. Where there is no actual obedience to Christ, there will be no evidence of present love for Him as Savior... the Christian who has developed a pattern of disobedience in his or her life will lose assurance.

On the other hand: Through our union with Christ in His death we are set free from the penalty of our guilt, which He has paid for us; in union with Him in His resurrection a complete, final, and irreversible righteousness is ours; in union with Him in His death and resurrection we have been set free from the reign of sin. Yet we remain sinners in ourselves.

Here is a vital distinction: While the guilt is gone and the reign of sin has ended, sin continues to indwell us and beset us. It still has the potential to deceive us and allure us. Once we understand this, we will not confuse the ongoing presence of sin with the absence of new life in us. Without that stability in our understanding, our assurance will be liable to ebb and flow.

Missionary of the Week

Ralph & Elaine Elliott Cru - Turkey



Ralph and Elaine's outreach efforts are directed to the business community of Istanbul, Turkey. They have made some significant steps in the ministry, including a monthly meeting for Turkish Christians in the business community. Elaine holds a Bible study for Turkish women professionals. During the week, the Elliotts host an English conversation group for the purpose of helping them build stronger relationships with the Turkish people as well as helping the Turks learn better English.

Along with the classes, they will sometimes hold seminars with topics ranging from the origin of life, intelligent design, healthy relationships and the role of God in our world. In February, they held their Transformers Network (TraNet 2017) for young Christian professionals, and had 230 registered from all over their part of the world, some coming from China, Cambodia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Please pray for:

1. Turkey's government and leaders. Recent elections have made it possible for Turkey to have a more authoritarian style of government.
2. Pastor Andrew Brunson, who is still in jail in Turkey for almost a year, and is now charged with trying to overthrow the government.
3. Opportunities to witness, as they are still free to minister in the same kind of relational way they have done in the past.
4. 12 college students have come to faith in the last 3 months. Pray for the campus teams there.
5. The Leader Impact branch of the ministry, which has met many people who are interested in the gospel.

Declaration of truth: If I had the wisdom of Solomon, the patience of Job, the meekness of Moses, the strength of Samson, the obedience of Abraham, the compassion of Joseph, the tears of Jeremiah, the prophetic voice of Elijah, the courage of Daniel, the greatness of John the Baptist, the endurance and love of Paul, I would still need redemption through Christ's blood, the forgiveness of sin.

E. Draper

Sunday School Classes & Descriptions

Adult

- “Revelation” - Organ Side Overflow Room: Matt Coleman
- “Chronological Survey of the Bible” - Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt
- “The Gospel of Luke” - Youth House: Steve Posner

Students & Children

- Babies - Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra Bridges
- 1s & 2s - Room 24: Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter/Danny & Kamee Roberson
- 3s & 4s - Room 25: Emily Wise, Susan Su, Donna Martin
- Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade - Room 200: Jimmy & Angie Creech
- 3rd-6th Grade Boys - Room 202: Ric Zittrouer & Richie Mills
- 3rd-6th Grade Girls - Room 204: Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton
- Youth Guys - Room 206: Tim Wade, Bobby Deloach, & Nick Herring
- Youth Girls - Room 207: Sona Bailey, Jessica Dimmitt, & Lauren Wade

God uses chronic pain and weakness, along with other afflictions, as His chisel for sculpting our lives. Felt weakness deepens dependence on Christ for strength each day. The weaker we feel, the harder we lean.

J.I. Packer

The chilling reality, according to the Bible, is that it is exceedingly easy to go to Hell.

Bible Reading Schedule

September 2017

	1 Ecclesiastes 12 & Romans 11
	2 Ecclesiastes 1 & Romans 12
	3 Eccles. 2 & Romans 13-14
	4 Eccles. 3 & Romans 15-16
	5 Ecclesiastes 4 & Romans 1
	6 Ecclesiastes 5 & Romans 2
	7 Ecclesiastes 6 & Romans 3
	8 Ecclesiastes 7 & Romans 4
	9 Ecclesiastes 8 & Romans 5-6
	10 Ecclesiastes 9 & Romans 7
	11 Ecclesiastes 10 & Romans 8
	12 Ecclesiastes 11 & Romans 9
	13 Eccles. 12 & Romans 10
	14 Romans 11-13
	15 Romans 14-16
	16 Luke 1
	17 Luke 2-3
	18 Luke 4-5
	19 Luke 6-7
	20 Luke 8-9
	21 Luke 10-11
	22 Luke 12-13
	23 Luke 14-16
	24 Luke 17-18
	25 Luke 19-20
	26 Luke 21-22
	27 Luke 23-24
	28 Jude & Revelation 1-2
	29 Revelation 3-5
	30 Revelation 6-10



Come Christians Join To Sing

1. Come, Christians, join to sing—
Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ our King—
Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice,
Before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice:
Alleluia! Amen!

2. Come, lift your hearts on high—
Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky—
Alleluia! Amen!

He is our Guide and Friend,
To us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end:
Alleluia! Amen!

3. Praise yet our Christ again—
Alleluia! Amen!

Life shall not end the strain—
Alleluia! Amen!

On heaven's blissful shore
His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore,
"Alleluia! Amen!"



Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from
www.fabchurch.com/sermons

For Hearing Impaired

If you have difficulties hearing, we have listening aid devices available. Ask any of the ushers, or the technician in the sound booth, if you are in need of one of these devices.

Nursery September 3 10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Carolyn Blanton, Lauren Wade

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Lance & July Ficek/
Emily Wise, Allie Mills

6:00 P.M.

Gena Russell, Haley Bull/
Napoleon & Savannah Martin

Nursery September 10 10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Donna Martin, Kirsten Jones

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Karrie & Lindsey Walker/
Linnea & Steve Posner

6:00 P.M.

Sona Bailey, Cindy Dimmitt/
Shawn Champion, Linda Walker

Ushers September 3 10:30 A.M.

Buddy Bacon, Johnny Bridges,
Reggie Brown, Kelly Stanford
6:00 P.M.

J. Rowe, Kelly Stanford

Ushers September 10 10:30 A.M.

Jimmy Kicklighter, Bucky Lanier,
Jack Moore, Mike Morris
6:00 P.M.

Mick Torrance, Jimmy Donaldson

Sunday Greeters - September 3

Leasa Brown, Becky Hendricks

September Lock-Up Deacons

Michael Walker, Ric Zittrouer