

October 2024

Volume LXXVI, No. 10





October 6 World Communion Sunday International Love Feast following Worship



October 27
Children's Sabbath
FBC children will be the worship leaders
for the morning service



October 30 FBC Trunk or Treat 6:30 pm-8:00 pm

(See inside for details of all these events.)



A Note from the Pastor

A gathered group has been walking through the Lord's Prayer on Wednesday nights for six weeks. Our conversations have been directed by a book on the subject by Adam Hamilton. The model prayer, offered by Jesus, instructed the disciples and instructs us, even today how we should pray. The six movements are important not only for praying but also for raising awareness of the ways the words we pray shape our hearts

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. God as father has meaning to Jesus or He wouldn't have begun the prayer that way. Hamilton writes, "Both fathering and mothering are a part of God's nature and character." Our earthly fathers are not the pattern God uses. Instead, God is the pattern and example of what fathering should look like. When we pray for God to hallow God's name, we begin to desire that God's name be hallowed in all things. It also invites God to use us to hallow God's name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. What are we praying when we pray for God's kingdom to come and for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven? We are stating that God's will must come first in our life. This stance should direct our hearts towards Thy and Thine and away from my and mine. We pray for God to break into this current time and create space for love of neighbor and service beyond self.

Give us, this day, our daily bread. Hamilton writes, "When I pray the Lord's Prayer, I do so as one who has food in the cupboard. But there are many who pray this prayer for whom this petition is, quite literally, a request for God to help them to have enough to eat." Our prayer for daily bread is not just about today only. It's about having what is essential for today. It's not about to-go plates or leftovers. How might our prayers for daily bread move us to become the answer to someone else's prayer for daily bread?

Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Forgiveness doesn't mean all the consequences of our sins have been released. Forgiveness does not excuse the action of one who wronged us. Forgiveness is also not reconciliation with the other, though reconciliation sometimes occurs after forgiveness. Forgiveness is not forgetting, but forgiveness is releasing our resentment, our visions of retribution, our bitterness and hate.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. God does not tempt us to do what is wrong. God leads us towards, encourages us to do what is right. Temptation is all around us. Temptation is a force that can be hard to overcome. We need God's guidance and strength to resist it. The question posed by this part of the Lord's prayer is, "Who will we invite to lead us?"

For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen. This doxology to the Lord's prayer is a clear response to a prayer that changes those who pray it! Once more, when we come to the doxology to the Lord's Prayer, we are choosing Thy and Thine instead of my and mine. We confess the power of Kingdom of God and celebrate it's certainty. We also allow this doxology to shape the ways we might choose to use our own power to glorify God in the days ahead.

Will you commit to pray the Lord's Prayer every day in October as a spiritual practice and consider these thoughts? It might just change you from inside out.

Your Pastor.





Worship in October

Sunday—October 6 **World Communion Sunday**

Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 Sermon: "Transcendent Love" John Uldrick

Special Music "Communion" - Chancel Choir

Sunday—October 13 Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark Tisworth preaching

Special Music "Turn! Turn! Turn!" (To Everything There Is a Season) Tracie Rush and Byron Hilley, soloists

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Floride and Ernest Carpenter and deceased members of their class by the Carpenter Class.

Sunday—October 20 Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Job 38:1-7, (34-41) Sermon: "A God Who Answers" John Uldrick

Special Music "Trust in the Lord" - Chancel Choir

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Clyde B. and Sara Simmons by Margaret and Devore Compton.

Sunday—October 27 **Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time** Children's Sabbath

The children will lead worship, including the hymns and special music

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Richard, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Williams, Mr. James Cartledge, Mr. and Mrs. Dongsoo Ahn by Carol and Ken Richard and Keith Jameson.



The World Gathers **Around the Table**

On October 6, we celebrate World Communion Sunday. As we all gather around the table once more to share the bread and cup, we also sing together as a community of faith. This year, our hymns feature melodies from Jamaica. North America, and England. Our anthem "Communion" is by Douglas E. Wagner, a beautiful original composition on words by Reginald Heber and Charlotte Lee. The last verse reads:

Lord, in your service we live ever, that by our deeds, our love is known;

Through caring thought and kind endeavor, Your will is done, your glory shown Amen.

With our recent focus on missions (local, regional, national, and international), we are reminded that we show Christ's love through our deeds, our caring thoughts, prayers, and kind endeavors. What a beautiful sentiment to remember as we come to the feast before us; Just as Christ gave His body and blood for our sins and salvation. His love continues through us in every thought and deed. This anthem reflects the Communion, and our dedication to serving Christ's love and forgiveness with and in the world. It has a hymn-like melody that gives way to beautiful harmonies and suspensions followed by expressive resolutions. As we gather around the table. let us remember and bear witness in all we say and do - Christ lives, Christ loves. Alleluia!

Keith



October Is Pastor (and Ministerial Staff) **Appreciation Month**

Our wonderful worship services, various studies, special events and activities, and pastoral care don't just happen. The FBC ministerial staff spend hours each week planning and leading us. Thank them. A word of encouragement goes a long way.



Wednesday Nights Activities and Meal Reservations During Intersessions Weeks

Wednesday, October 2, and Wednesday, October 9. are during Greenwood District 50's Intersessions Weeks. Adult Building Blocks will follow the schedule below.

On Wednesday, October 2, children and their families, assisted by the youth, will have a Family STEM Night. On Wednesday, October 9, children and their families are invited to enjoy a Picnic and Playground Night.

The FBC Kitchen Crew WILL NOT be preparing supper on Wednesday. October 2 and Wednesday, October 9. Instead, the church is taking orders for Chick-fil-a boxed meals, which someone from the church will pick-up and have at the church by 5:30 pm on those nights.

Standing reservations WILL NOT be honored on these two nights and there will not be a child or gluten-free option. No extra meals will be ordered. Those wishing to order a Chick-fil-a boxed meal must called the church office by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 1 and/or Tuesday, October 8.



October-November **Building Blocks**

"Love Stories in the Bible" led by John Uldrick and Anne Hancock (October 2-23, November 6-20)

Five Week study of the book of James led John Uldrick

(October 16, 23 and November 6-20)

Growing on Grace

Chancel Choir

October 30: Trunk or Treat (No Building Blocks or Chancel Choir)



FBC International Love Feast following Worship Sunday, October 6

World Communion Day is a time to remember our unity in Christ no matter where we live and worship. In order to continue sharing our sense of connectedness and hospitality, everyone is invited to the FBC International Love Feast following worship on October 6. Please bring a favorite dish from around the world (remember, the United States is part of the world, too). Leave the covered dish in the Fellowship Hall before 11:00 am. Traditional family recipes, exotic foreign dishes, salads, rolls, and desserts are all welcomed. Each dish left in the Fellowship Hall should be labeled, describing its ingredients (to help those with allergies such as gluten and nuts) and naming which culture from which it comes. Please prepare enough of each dish to serve 10-12 people.



FBC Women's Circles

FBC has several women's circles. The following is a list of the circles and their meeting times and locations.

Alma Johnson Circle

Regular meetings begin in October. 1st Monday of the month,

Laucis-Parham Circle

Meets 2nd Monday of the month 6:30 pm

Peggy Hollingsworth Circle

Meets 1st Thursday of the month September- May Noon in Room 106

Rosemary Beniamin Circle

Meets 1st Monday of the month 6:30 pm in members' homes

Any of the circles would welcome new members.



September Diaconate Update

The September Diaconate meeting was held on Sunday, September 15, at 6:00 pm. In addition to receiving reports from the staff, the Diaconate approved the following:

 The Diaconate approved a recommendation from the Diaconate Ad-hoc Committee to begin the process converting Edgewood Cemetery and Mausoleum to its own non-profit corporation.



The Stewardship Committee voted during their September meeting to pay Third Quarter Mission in full and on time. In addition to funding CBF Global and CBFSC, the payment of Third Quarter Missions (\$12,830.00) also supports six local mission partners. Thank you for your gifts to the annual Ministry Plan that supports our mission partners.



Young at Heart

(A group for widows)

Next meeting: October 8 Noon at the Country Club

For more information contact Nancy Rooney (229-3641) or Beth Hardage (770) 598-5303.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



(Knitters and Crocheters)

Next meeting: October 19 10:00 am-noon (drop-in), Church Parlor

For more information, contact June Shaw (538-9101).

Church Family News

Christian Sympathy is extended to the families of:

- Glenda Smith
- Darrell Ellis, brother-in-law of Mary Lee Willard

Self Hospital: Bill Whaley

Wesley Commons Rehabilitation:

Bob Ledet

Home: Laura Koone, Terry Gilchrist, June Shaw, Carol Richard

New Members

Ken Rogers
Alice Hammett
Erin Nichols
Patricia and Brandon Macmurphy and

Camden Gibson Hill

CBF Week of Prayer for Global Missions
Because Presence Matter

October 6-12, 2024
Behold . . . A New Thing
Isaiah 43:19

Pray for CBF field personnel (missionaries) as they build trusting relationships through their presence. Pray for partnerships between field personnel and the global church. Pray that funds will be provided to cover living expenses, benefits, and project needs.

2024 Financials

August

 August Receipts:
 \$ 71,014.68

 August Expenses:
 \$ 70,633.77

 August Surplus:
 \$ 380.91

 Revenue vs Expense YTD
 (\$ 61,457.10)

September 1-15

Period Need	\$ 57,023.61
Period Gifts	\$ 47,501.31
Ministry Plan Req'd YTD	\$ 703,291.19
Ministry Plan Rcv'd YTD	\$ 576,062.63
Ministry Plan YTD Deficit (Under)	(\$127,228.56)
Sunday School Att. (Avg)	165
Worship Attendance (Avg)	213



Upcoming Dates

October 2: Family Activity Night-

STEM Fun, 6:30 pm no

choirs

October 6: Love Feast after worship

October 9: Picnic and Playground

6:00 pm; no choirs

October 23: Children's Sabbath

Practice

October 27: Children's Sabbath

October 30: Trunk-or-Treat

November 8: Inter-generational

Outdoor Movie Night

November 17: Childcare (babies to 5th

grade) for Annual Meeting—Thanksgiving

Fun

December 1: Hanging of the Greens

December 4: Ornament Party



Intersession Weeks

During Greenwood District 50's Intercession Weeks, CIAs and children's choirs will pause to provide a time for family activities.

- The first intercession week, October 2, will be a STEM Night. Starting at 6:30 pm, there will several activities. This will be set up like the ornament party using the same rooms. Childcare will be in the room beside the nursery for childcare.
- The second intercession week, October 9, will be family playground and picnic night. The event will begin at 6:00 pm. Families are welcome to eat upstairs or get your meal to go and eat it as a picnic or bring your own. There will be no childcare for this night.

Please see article about meal reservations for October 2 and 9.



Children's Sabbath

Children's Sabbath is Sunday, October 27. The group will practice during CIAs on October 23. Musicians and Music Makers children's choirs will sing as part of the Children's Sabbath worship service.

If your 2nd-5th grader will be here and would like to participate- read or write a prayer, please let Anna Burch know!

Volunteer Openings



Children's Church
Adult First Sundays in Oct., Dec. Feb.

Apr., June, Aug.

3K/4K Sunday School Teachers: 2nd Sundays

Contact Anna Burch to volunteer.



Trunk or Treat Wednesday, October 30 6:30 pm-8:00 pm

First Baptist will host a "Trunk-or-Treat" on Wednesday, October 25, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Trick-or-Treating will be 6:30 pm-7:00 pm. Church members will be in the back parking lot, passing out candy from their car trunks. There will be games, hayrides, and face painting to follow trick-or-treating. Invite a family or friends to join! As a reminder, Edgewood Street will be closed for hayrides. For parking, please come down Grace Terrace.

Volunteer help is needed to provide trunks for giving out candy

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Anna Burch, aeburchfbc@gmail.com.





October Sunday Night Live

Sunday, October 1 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm At the home of Bryce and Kelly Rhodes



On Wednesday evening, October 16, the youth will help pack and distribute to-go bags for the Soup Kitchen Empty Bowls fundraiser. Parents, drop off will be at 3:45 pm and pick up will be at 7:30 pm.



Youth Fall Retreat November 15-17

It's time for the Youth Fall Retreat! The youth will head to Awanita, November 15-17, for a weekend to rest, relax, and learn. A more detailed itinerary will be coming soon. Deadline to sign up and pay a \$50.00 deposit is Friday, October 11.



MARK Upcoming Youth Events

October 2: Youth help CIAs with

STEM night

October 16: **Empty Bowls** October 30: Youth help with Trunk

or Treat

November 15-17: Awanita Fall Retreat Parent Day Out November 23:

> Fundraiser and Lock In

December 2: Youth help CIAs with **Ornament Party**



For many people at First Baptist, Hanging of the Green is one of the most meaningful services of the year. This service is an opportunity for individuals and families to assist in leading the service by bring various Advent symbols into the Sanctuary. Anyone who would like to participate in the 2024 Hanging of the Green service on Sunday, December 1, 2024, is asked to contact Alice Gilchrist at terryalicegilchrist@gmail.com or Hillary Craigo at hillaryhcraigo@gmail.com by November 10, 2024.



Never Grow Old (NGO) Fellowship

"Getting to Know Our New Pastor" is the October 1 program for NGO. The NGO Fellowship will learn more about John Uldrick than they ever needed to know as he answers some thought-provoking questions that has been submitted to him. The program begins at 11:45 am. Please come and bring a guest with you as John informally shares part of his unique life story. You do not have to be a senior to come fellowship.

NGO in November falls on Presidential Election Day, November 5. Please come to NGO after you vote for a star-studded musical revue. Performing will be Joyce Nickles, Jack Cauley, Stephanie Turner, Rhonda McGinnis, Reed Nickles, Charlie Herndon, and Linda Owens. The catered lunch will be chicken tenders, green beans, macaroni and cheese, and cobbler. If you are not an NGO member, please call the church office no later than October 30 to make your reservation. As in October, entertainment will begin at 11:45 am. followed by the meal. All ages are welcome to our fellowship as we celebrate our country and the end of a challenging election process.

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Helping Hands Ministry Information Line