

the BEACON

USPS 548-820

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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FBC FAMILY MEETING

If you know me at all, you know I love innovation, strategy, and trying new things to advance the Kingdom of God, and I pray that people from every place would embrace the atoning work of Jesus for salvation. I hold everything but the gospel loosely. I never want to build traditions I won't budge on or create golden calves that could stand in the way of someone encountering Christ, or even cause my own heart to drift in worship. At the same time, I don't want to throw the baby out with the bathwater. There are traditions that are good, beautiful, encouraging, and inviting. When Christ is at the center, tradition can strengthen the local church and bring great glory to the God who is worthy of it all.

One of those traditions is quickly becoming a favorite of mine, our Family Thanksgiving Dinner. It's a time when we gather, share a meal, and celebrate the many ways God has been at work among us. We recount His faithfulness, reflect on the "gospel arcs" He has allowed us to be part of, and look ahead with expectancy. It's meaningful, unifying, and deeply encouraging.

Because of how impactful that time has been, we are launching a second gathering like it.

On **April 26 at 6:00pm**, we will come together for a **Family Meeting**, an evening designed to blend the faithfulness of a traditional church business meeting with the energy of vision casting and the warmth of shared fellowship. We'll celebrate what God is doing, provide updates on mission, vision, finances, and projects, and take time to worship, pray, and share a meal together.

When you think of this night, think:

clarity, unity, transparency, and excitement for what's ahead.

Two weeks before the meeting, we'll open a form for you to submit questions. This is one more way we can walk together as a church family, engaging openly and faithfully with the direction God is leading us.

Psalm 133:1 says, "*Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!*" And Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 14:40, "*But all things should be done decently and in order.*" Our desire is to hold both unity of heart and clarity of direction as we follow Christ together.

I truly cannot wait for this night. It will be a joy to sit together, share a meal, and rejoice in all that God has done, is doing, and will continue to do through our church family.



TJ MAULDIN
Lead Pastor

TJ

WATCH SUNDAY SERVICES LIVE AT [YOUTUBE.COM/FBCTIFTON](https://www.youtube.com/fbctifton)



KENNY MILLER
Executive & Groups
Pastor

GOSPEL CONVERSATIONS

It has been incredibly encouraging to watch the people of our church embrace the call to carry out the Great Commission. While this may not be new to you, it is worth reminding you: God has commanded His people to take the gospel to all people. We have been called to make disciples of all nations, tribes, and tongues.

At the beginning of this year, our lead pastor challenged us to pursue 2,026 gospel conversations in 2026. As I write this, we are already at 403. But let's be clear, this is not just a number we're tracking. These represent real people. Real souls. Each one has heard the greatest news ever given, that through Jesus Christ, they can be reconciled to God. Apart from the gospel, they remain separated from Him. That reality should both sober us and compel us.

I wish there were space to share every story, but let me highlight just two. Because of one intentional gospel conversation, we now have a new brother in Christ. Scripture tells us that heaven is rejoicing over this! Luke 15:7 says, "There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

In another instance, a group of men have begun meeting regularly to open God's Word together at their workplace, all because one leader took seriously his responsibility to share the gospel with those he interacts with daily. That kind of impact doesn't happen by accident. It takes humility. It takes intentionality. And it takes obedience.

So let me ask you:

At the end of 2026, what part will **you** have played in taking the gospel to Tifton and beyond? Who will hear the good news because of **your** obedience? What step will **you** take *today* to be faithful to this calling?

Thank you for your continued commitment to sharing the gospel with those around you. And as you go, don't forget to report your gospel conversations so that, together as a church, we can pray specifically for each person by name.

Kenny



FIRST FACTS & FIGURES

FEBRUARY 2026

BUDGET GIVING

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Monthly Offering | \$282,187 |
| Offering to Date | \$510,743 |
| Expenses to Date | \$693,787 |
| Budget to Date | \$561,175 |

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Contributions to Date | \$1,392,560 |
| Total Cost | \$2,300,000 |
| Loan Balance Owed | \$1,019,680 |

**WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE**

2000
average

**SMALL GROUP
ATTENDANCE**

715
average



MARCIA STAUB
Kids Minister

KIDS MINISTRY RESOURCE BOXES

FBC Kids is offering a simple way to partner with parents to raise kids who love Jesus. We are equipping families with targeted resource boxes for various seasons and struggles they may face. The boxes are available for free and can be picked up the next time you are at church. The Grief Box is meant for families who have experienced loss or heartbreak through death. The Anxiety Box is meant for kids who may face intense seasons or moments of anxiety. The Technology Box is for families who are navigating the use or overuse of technology. Finally, the Divorce Box is a curated box for families navigating the transition of divorce. It is my hope that these boxes provide comfort and resources in a time of uncertainty.

VBS AT FBC

Mark your calendar for June 1-5 from 9:00am to noon. We will be experiencing the nature of God at Rainforest Falls. VBS is for children who have completed PreK through 5th grade. Children embark on an epic adventure as they navigate rotations such as Bible study, missions, music, crafts, recreation, and snacks. We need tour guides to guide our children through the Rainforest and love and lead them to the cross. You can sign your child up today or sign up to volunteer at fbctifton.org/events.

CENTRIKID CAMP - JUNE 21-25 - SHOCCO SPRINGS, TALLADEGA, AL

There are just 16 more spots for camp 2026. Your 2nd-5th grader will love a week away at camp, focusing intentionally on God and engaging in age-appropriate activities. You can find information about CentriKid camp on our events page. I am very excited about the location change because it brings the camp 2 hours closer. It also provides more of a "summer camp" location feel as opposed to a university. Finally, the housing and the food are superb compared to the previous years. Sign up at fbctifton.org/events to confirm your child's spot for camp!

Marcia



BARRY COOK
Minister of
Facilities & Worship
Support

OUR FACILITIES TEAM – A TRUE BLESSING

I can honestly say that the opportunity to serve alongside the Facilities Team here at FBC has been a true blessing. Getting to know and work with these wonderful individuals has enriched my daily life, challenged my faith, and helped me grow as both a believer and an ambassador for Christ.

We work together, grow in our faith together, pray together, and often laugh together. Our weekly meetings have become much more than check-ins—they are times of Bible study, shared testimonies, and prayer. I rarely leave without learning something meaningful and being encouraged.

Beyond that, this team does an outstanding job caring for our church by keeping our facilities clean, welcoming, and well-maintained. If you haven't had the chance to meet them, I'd love to introduce them:

Lovert Britt, our longest-serving staff member, faithfully keeps the preschool hall and main floor spotless.

Jonathan Prince ensures our floors and carpets are in excellent condition and also assists with setup needs.

Donald Fowler takes great pride in caring for the Ministry Center.

Johnny Toomer serves wherever needed, cleaning, repairing, painting, and tackling any task with excellence.

Phillip Mayo, our newest team member, is doing a fantastic job maintaining the second floor and helping with setups.

Edsel Pettiford, our team leader, can be found just about anywhere, at any time, doing whatever needs to be done.

Jenn Grajko keeps everything running smoothly and on schedule—we truly couldn't do it without her.

This is your Facilities Team. You can be proud not only of the work they do, but of who they are becoming through their growing relationships with Jesus and their commitment to serving with excellence.

Barry



MARK MYERS
*Minister of Recreation
and Senior Adults*

THE COVE IS WAITING FOR YOU!

Join us May 17–20 in Asheville, North Carolina, as we visit Billy Graham's The Cove! Our featured speaker will be Richard Blackaby.

Enjoy wonderful worship, incredible meals, comfortable accommodations, and beautiful scenery—all included in the package price of \$475 per person (double occupancy).

Visit fbctifton.org/events to sign up and submit your \$100 deposit to reserve your spot!

MEN'S LEAGUE BASKETBALL – A GREAT SEASON!

A big thank you to all of our Men's League Basketball coaches and players for an exciting season!

First-year coach David Payne and his Gold team had an incredible run, nearly going undefeated. In the final games, Brett Johnson's Black team won a thrilling overtime matchup to advance to the championship. In the end, David and the Golden Warriors claimed the victory and the title of Men's League Champions—congratulations!

We are grateful for our outstanding coaches: Eric Exum, Paul Potier, Cory Morris, Will Flowers, Josh Boyer, Brett Johnson, and David Payne. A special thank you to Zach Matthews and his team for their strong effort and tireless work coordinating the league coaches page. Thank you all for a fantastic season!

CO-ED SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS IN FULL SWING!

It's time for Co-Ed Softball! Visit fbctifton.org/events for details and to sign up. Cost is \$50 per person, and we especially need more lady athletes to join in!

Thanks for your continued participation and for supporting our Recreation Ministry through your prayers.

Mark



• CONGRATULATIONS •

Justin & Christian Pate on the birth of a son, **Carter James Pate**.
Proud grandparents are Scott & Melanie Raines.

• SYMPATHY •

Clay & Laurel Lamb in the passing of their infant son,
Robert Shepherd Lamb.

Evelyn Rigdon in the passing of her brother-in-law,
Sam Rigdon, of Buena Vista.

The Lawhon family in the passing of Ron's brother,
Randy Lawhon, of Forney, Texas.

The family of **Jan Shepperd**.

The family of **Barbara Couvillon**.

• NEW MEMBERS •

Cindy Bailey; Kristin Bennett; Beth McCrary; Glyn McCrary;
Gabe Roberts; Patsy Roberts; Shae Roberts; Alison Ross;
Jared Ross; Angela Valdez

• APPRECIATION •

From **Providence School of Tifton**

From **John and Wanne Dina**

• BAPTISMS •

Angela Valdez; Hobbs Webster; Hunter Wood; Bryanna Sumner

THIS WEEK AT FBC

MARCH 30-APRIL 5, 2026

| | | |
|------------|---------|---|
| MON | 10:30am | Staff Meeting (MSH) |
| | 1:00pm | Game Day for Senior Adults (Concourse) |
| TUE | 9:00am | Facilities Team Meeting (Conference Room) |
| | 10:30am | Joyful Sound (Choir Room) |
| | 6:00pm | PAL - Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (S.S. Annex) |
| | 7:00pm | Red Door College Ministry (Ministry Center) |
| WED | 4:30pm | War Room (C105) |
| | 7:00pm | Adult Choir (Choir Room) |
| THU | 6:30pm | Celebrate Recovery (MSH/Chapel) |
| FRI | 12:00pm | Church Office/FLC Closed |
| | 6:30pm | Good Friday Worship Service (Sanctuary) |
| SUN | |  |
| | 8:30am | Connection Worship I Service (Ministry Center) |
| | 9:50am | Small Groups for all ages |
| | 11:00am | Cornerstone Service (Sanctuary) |
| | | Connection Worship II Service (Ministry Center) |

UPCOMING EVENTS

- APR 12&19** Starting Point - New Member Class
- APR 25** Women on Mission Brunch
- MAY 17-20** The Cove - Senior Adult Trip
- JUN 1-5** VBS 2026

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF EVENTS,
MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER, VISIT
FBCTIFTON.ORG/EVENTS

ANNIE ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING®

OUR GOAL: **\$25,000**
REC'D TO DATE: **\$15,358**

CONNECT WITH US!



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Jose Lopez, *Hispanic Pastor*
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