

FAMILY NIGHT FOLLOW UP

Psalm 133:1: *"Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"*

I want to offer a quick thank you to all of you who attended our Family Meeting held on April 26. The food was wonderful, the fellowship was sweet, and the vision for the future was communicated clearly. I am so thankful to see brothers and sisters dwelling in unity and choosing the power and perfection of the gospel of Jesus Christ above all else.

I have had so many encouraging follow-up conversations, and I truly feel that spending time together like that moves the needle on unity, friendship, and ministry effectiveness as a church family. For those who were unable to attend, please know you were missed, and I wanted to update you on a few of the highlights we shared.

1. At FBC, we are blessed to be in the top 1% of SBC churches in Cooperative Program giving. These are mission dollars at work across our convention. If you were unaware, approximately 40% goes to the International Mission Board, 20% to the North American Mission Board, 20% to our six Southern Baptist seminaries, and the remainder supports the Executive Committee and other ministry needs.
2. We are among some of the fastest-growing, mission-minded churches in our state. We have added 41 new members since January and have baptized more than 14 brothers and sisters during that time. God is so good!
3. We exceeded our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal raising more than \$26,000. Praise be to God!
4. We are moving closer and closer to becoming a church that one day plants churches. We are praying and making preparations for what it will look like to become a praying, partnering, and sending church as we raise up missionaries and church planters for the field.
5. We discussed our traditional service and how we plan to maintain our current structure. Rather than asking only whether the pastor can be in person, we want to ask a better and more important question: Do I want to belong to a church that is growing and reaching people with the gospel, even if it inconveniences me? What am I willing to forfeit, embrace, launch, or dream in order to see the baptism waters stirred and the mission to love God, love people, and multiply disciples fulfilled?
6. We discussed music and worship styles, and how our traditional service will remain traditional. Other than Easter, the last 32 songs led in that venue, 30 have been traditional. We aim to continue that while also allowing the Lord to impress a modern song on Pastor Barry or Pastor Daniel's heart from time to time. I trust their leadership to incorporate tasteful, Christ-centered lyrics from a multi-generational perspective whenever they feel led.
7. We discussed how much of the infighting, worship wars, and church politics seen in many churches would feel strange and off-putting to a new believer, someone who is simply grateful to be saved and no longer separated from a loving God. We want to be sensitive to those realities and never allow our behavior or preferences to be elevated above the preciousness of the gospel.
8. We spoke about giving and how our finances are looking strong. It is clear the Lord is blessing us with a season of sweet generosity, even in uncertain economic and geopolitical times.
9. Our executive staff had the opportunity to share about each ministry area and how God is moving among our people. It was beautiful and refreshing to hear testimonies of how God is building His kingdom right here in Tifton.

I could go on and on, but you'll just have to come to our next Family Meeting to hear all the details, or schedule a meeting with me anytime. I simply want to remind you that I am here, I love you, and I aim to lead you to greener pastures as your pastor, leading you under the watch care of Christ. I look forward to what God will continue to do as we love Him fully and obey Him completely.



TJ MAULDIN
Lead Pastor



LINLEY JOHNSON
Executive Assistant

WORTHY WOMEN'S NIGHT

There's something sacred about a room full of women who come not because they have it all together but because they know the One who does. Every year, I pray for the women who will walk through our doors, that the Lord would meet them in a special way. This year, I want you to show up, not the polished version of you. Not the 'I'll come when life slows down' version. The real you, the one who's carrying a lot, hoping for more, and maybe just needing a deep breath, sitting in the presence of God.

Psalm 23 tells us, *"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."*
He is our Shepherd, and because of that, we lack nothing we truly need.

He restores.

He leads.

He prepares a table, even in the middle of whatever you're walking through right now.

That's the heart behind Worthy Women's Night. We gather to worship, to sit at that table together, to remember that our worth was never something we had to earn; it's something we've been given by a father who loves us unconditionally.

This year, I'm excited to share that we will hear from our very own Taylor Mauldin, spend time in worship, and encourage one another, as we grow in truth, and create space for God to meet us right where we are.

Join us **TONIGHT, Friday, May 1st**, at **6:00pm** in the **Ministry Center**. There is no cost or registration for this event. Bring a friend, or come alone, I promise there's a seat for you! See you there!

You are Worthy!

Linley



OUR GOAL: 2,026
REC'D-TO-DATE:
864



FIRST FACTS & FIGURES

MARCH 2026

BUDGET GIVING

Monthly Offering	\$282,641
Offering to Date	\$793,384
Expenses to Date	\$983,915
Budget to Date	\$853,148

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

Contributions to Date	\$1,404,823
Total Cost	\$2,300,000
Loan Balance Owed	\$1,013,280

**WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE**

1766
average

**SMALL GROUP
ATTENDANCE**

732
average



MARK MYERS
*Minister of Recreation
& Senior Adults*

WHO ARE WE—AND WHO DO WE WANT TO BECOME—AS SENIOR ADULTS?

If you were to describe the Senior Adult Ministry at First Baptist Church, which of the following names best reflects the direction we want to pursue?

- Legacy Builders** – Are we passing on a passion and purpose for the future of Senior Adults?
- Tried and True** – Do we demonstrate a consistent, positive pattern of faithful service and participation?
- Young at Heart** – Are we welcoming, inclusive, and fresh in our ideas and attitudes?
- Wise Owls** – Are we leading and encouraging others through wisdom and experience?
- Seasoned Warriors** – Are we fighting the good fight, sharing the Good News, and living boldly for Jesus?

Take a moment to consider how you want to be known by our church, our community, and one another.

I'd like to challenge us to choose a renewed identity for our Senior Adults before the next Beacon article is published.

Please circle your choice for our new name and return it to the FLC desk.

We believe in great things ahead!

Watch for upcoming events:

- The Cove – May 17-20
- Summer Theater – June
- Coming soon: Senior Adult VBS & Suwannee River Retreat

Mark



MARCIA STAUB
Kids Minister

VBS AT FBC

Join us June 1-5 from 9:00am until Noon as we explore the nature of God at Rainforest Falls. VBS is for all children who have completed Pre-K through 5th grade. It is a wonderful week where children learn worship songs, hear Bible stories, engage in recreation, eat snacks, learn about missionaries, and make creative crafts. This is an excellent opportunity for you to serve and invest in the next generation. We need snack servers, crew leaders, recreation helpers, mission teachers, and craft creators. Plan to join us this week at Rainforest Falls. We have a spot for everyone to serve. Whether you are a skilled teacher or prefer to stay in the background, we have a spot for you to serve. Sign your child or yourself up TODAY at fbctifton.org/events.

CENTRIKID CAMP

June 21-25, all 2nd-5th graders are invited to join us for CAMP! We will be heading to Shoco Springs in Talladega, Alabama. It is a week filled with fun and intentional time with God. Your child does not want to miss CentriKid. This year, we will have time for the inflatable aqua park, zipline, and bazooka ball, in addition to all the intentional time spent learning about Jesus. Camp costs \$400, but we have another fundraiser opportunity on May 2nd and 3rd. Sign up for camp at fbctifton.org/events.

SUMMER FAMILY POP-UPS

Mark your calendars for our Summer Family Pop Ups. These are kids' ministry opportunities for your family to be together and intentionally fellowship with other families around FBC. Our 2026 Summer Family Pop Ups are July 8, July 15, July 22, and July 29. Stay tuned for each week's theme.

Marcia

• SYMPATHY •

The family of Natalie Rippy in the passing of her father,
Douglas MacArthur Sutton, of Sylvester.

Cynthia Hendricks in the passing of her mother, **Ann Smith**.

The family of Rita Hepburn in the passing of her brother,
Wayne Harris, of Columbus.

The family of Martha Darden in the passing of her brother,
Michael Knape, Sr., of Lenox.

The family of Jay Morris in the passing of his grandmother,
Dean Morris, from Sylvester.

• NEW MEMBERS •

Marie Crumley
Bryanna Sumner
Allen Vickers
Kate Vickers

• BAPTISMS •

Walker Henderson
Phillip Hamill

• APPRECIATION •

From **Greg Sheppard**

From **Hillary & Terrance Luker**

ANNIE ARMSTRONG

EASTER OFFERING®

OUR GOAL: **\$25,000**
REC'D TO DATE: **\$28,427!**

CONNECT WITH US!



THIS WEEK AT FBC

MAY 4-10, 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)
	3:00pm	FUSE Preteen Ministry (Red Door)
	6:00pm	PAL - Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (S.S. Annex)
	7:00pm	Red Door College Ministry (Ministry Center)
WED	4:30pm	Elementary Choirs
		War Room (C105)
	5:30pm	Kids Open Gym or Quiet Room
	6:00pm	Kids Missions, Recreation or Art
		Middle School Groups (Gathering Room)
		Student Worship (Gathering Room)
	6:45pm	Adult Choir (Choir Room)
	7:00pm	High School Groups (Gathering Room)
THU	6:30pm	Celebrate Recovery (MSH/Chapel)
FRI	12:00pm	Church Office/FLC Closed
SUN		Mother's Day
	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

- MAY 17-20** The Cove - Senior Adult Trip
- JUN 1-5** VBS 2026
- JUN 21-25** CentriKid Camp

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

THE BEACON (USPS 548-820) is published monthly by First Baptist Church, Tifton
404 Love Avenue, Tifton, GA 31794
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE BEACON, 404 Love Avenue, Tifton, GA 31794

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at TIFTON, GA

TJ Mauldin, *Lead Pastor*
Kenny Miller, *Executive & Groups Pastor*
Mark Myers, *Minister of Recreation & Sr. Adults*
Matt Howell, *Student Pastor*
Marcia Staub, *Kids Minister*
Jose Lopez, *Hispanic Pastor*
Barry Cook, *Minister of Facilities & Worship Support*
Daniel Gibson, *Worship Pastor*
Kiet Le, *Vietnamese Pastor*