

the BEACON

USPS 548-820

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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JESUS IS BETTER

There is an undeniable and unrivaled delight in knowing Christ. You hear me say, as often as I preach, that He is the greatest of all time, and I am more convinced than ever that Jesus is better than anything we could experience, attain, or ascend to on this side of heaven.

In this life, we will have heartache, and in the heartache, we will find ourselves yearning for Jesus because the heartache illuminates the kindness and preciousness of Jesus. We will experience betrayal, and in that betrayal, we will long for the embrace of the Father because betrayal reminds us that there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Christ the righteous will never forsake His own.

We will encounter success, and standing on the podium of accomplishment, we remember that there was One who stood on Calvary, and nothing in this life, however triumphant, compares to a relationship with this death-defeating King.

Because Jesus is better.

I need this reminder. You need this reminder.

I have been in a season of wanting to see the Lord do something remarkable in our church, but along with that, I want Him to do something amazing in our city, in other churches in our city, and in the world. And I am convinced that Jesus will deploy us fully when we are ultimately enamored with His glory, His work, and His will above everything else, clinging tightly to the cross and His gospel while holding everything else in our lives with an open hand on the altar of His grace.

So, beloved, if you are moving through this season on board with Jesus and you sense the waves growing, or it's smooth sailing; you are stranded and floating, or navigating the rapids with joy and faith, cling to Jesus, look to Jesus, delight in Jesus, and He will never fail you.

I was meditating on Jesus in my office Tuesday, and I want to gift you this poem from my devotional time.

When tides do rise
And waves do crash
I look beyond the broken mast.
The creaking deck and frantic crew
Know no hope lest tied to You
Ever stable, ever close
Father, Son, Sweet Holy Ghost



TJ MAULDIN
Lead Pastor

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TJ' with a stylized flourish.



**MICHELLE
HAMMOND**
Accounts Payable
& CR Staff Liaison

RECOVERYFEST THANK-YOU

We want to extend a huge thank you to our church family for your incredible support at this year's RecoveryFest. Because of your prayers, generosity, and willingness to serve, our community experienced a powerful day of hope, healing, and connection.

This year, we welcomed around 500 attendees and placed local Recovery Resource Guides directly into their hands. Every guide represented hope, direction, and the reminder that no one has to walk the journey of recovery alone.

From welcoming guests, hosting resource tables, preparing food, helping with Ride4Recovery, and simply showing up with the love of Christ—you made a difference. You encouraged lives, supported families, and reminded many that recovery is possible.

Celebrate Recovery Tifton is deeply grateful for every volunteer, every donation, and every act of kindness that helped make RecoveryFest a success. Thank you for being a church that loves people well and stands with our recovery community.

Thanks so much,
Michelle



**MISSION
GEORGIA**

\$8,900

REC'D TO DATE

\$20,000

OUR CHURCH
GOAL

Statewide Goal:

1.5 MILLION

Your gift helps Mission Georgia support churches as they:

- Provide literacy and education programs
- Care for families through foster care and adoption support
- Partner with healthcare ministries to meet physical needs
- Respond to disasters and times of crisis
- Support addiction recovery and restoration efforts
- And so much more!

Your generosity puts missions in motion across Georgia.

FIRST FACTS & FIGURES

AUGUST 2026

BUDGET GIVING

Monthly Offering	\$246,446
Offering to Date	\$1,961,913
Expenses to Date	\$2,149,892
Budget to Date	\$2,261,652

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

Contributions to Date	\$1,475,085
Total Cost	\$2,300,000
Loan Balance Owed	\$975,209

**WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE**

1736
average

**SMALL GROUP
ATTENDANCE**

606
average



MARCIA STAUB
Kids Minister

KIDS MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Each week, we have the incredible opportunity to love and lead kids. On Sunday, we teach them to love God through intentional time in the Scriptures, learning truth, and learning how to navigate the Bible. During our Worship Service times, loving leaders care for the littlest members in our PreK and under WorshipCare Ministry. During 11:00am worship time, our Kindergarten - 3rd graders have the opportunity to learn more about worship through K3 Worship. On Tuesday, we strive to multiply disciples through our Preteen Ministry Fuse. It meets from 3:00-5:00pm at the Red Door. It includes one hour of supervised freedom where kids get to be kids, followed by a half hour of intentional Bible study. Finally, on Wednesday, we strive to love people by creating a space kids want to be at through WNK. During WNK, we teach kids about God's love and how Jesus is the key player in every Bible story, bringing redemption and love. It's a great season to be a part of FBC Kids. If you are looking for a place to serve, reach out to me at mstaub@fbctifton.org. We would love for you to see what happens each week in Kids Ministry.

Mark your calendar: FBC Tifton Family Night at the Farm is October 28th from 5:00-8:00pm. Plan to join us for this free night of fellowship at Rutland Farms. All of their fall activities are available for free. We will also have dinner available for free. This is an awesome opportunity to invite families you've been hoping will join you for a Sunday of worship.

Marcia



MARK MYERS
Minister of Recreation
& Senior Adults

SR. VBS STEPS OUT WITH SUCCESS!

Last week FBC hosted our 2nd Senior Adult VBS in the Tifton Community. We started the week with over 60 attendees and had as many as 85 throughout the week. We enjoyed leaders who shared craft ideas such as beaded bracelets, Christmas ornaments, fridge magnets, pumpkin hangers, and creative keychains. We heard from leaders who participated with the Called to Care Ministry, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Pregnancy Care Center, and Student Mission Trips, and who talked about becoming a F.A.T. Christian. God's Word and our leaders shared on Legacy, Bad Angels, Jonah and Brazil, Bugs and Jesus, and the Seven 'I Am's' of Jesus. A new addition to VBS allowed our leaders to share their hobbies including hiking, pigeon training, worship and worship instruments from around the world, woodworking, and photography and cameras.

With a lineup of creative and interesting opportunities to learn and create we also enjoyed wonderful times of worship, amazing food and fellowship, were allowed to give generously and almost double the giving goal that I "ate pie" for. Please let me THANK each leader, participant, and fellow laborer in Christ for their participation and service to our Lord! Many have already volunteered for year three and offered to help follow-up with ALL our new friends who attended! God is blessing our ministry! Please join us to serve!

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY GETS A NEW NAME!

The votes are in! Our Senior Adult Ministry has a new name:

Young at Heart

We're excited about this new name and all that it represents. And now it's time for our Graphics Department—please, Ansley!—to get to work on a new logo for the Young at Heart Ministry!

ARE YOU LISTENING?

Young at Heart Ministry presents the Suwannee River Retreat, October 12-15!

- \$150 per person – Double Occupancy
- \$250 – Single Occupancy (as rooms are available)

Sign up online at fbctifton.org/events or at the FLC desk! Be sure to list your roommate when registering. Come ready for a great time of fellowship, fun, and growing together!

Mark

• SYMPATHY •
The family of **Steve Caldwell**.

The family of **Coach Charles "Roy" McWilliams** of Ty Ty.

Ila Rooks in the death of her mother, **Frances Gressette**.

Noah Smith in the death of his mother, **Nona Smith**.

Judith Gibson in the death of her mother,
Daniel Gibson's grandmother, **Lois Fletcher**.

The family of **Wade Clark** (former member of FBC).

• NEW MEMBERS •
**Morgan Cato-Smith; Sonia Gray; Bella McKinney;
Erin Porter; Wes Porter; Noah Smith**

• BAPTISMS •
**Madison Roberts; Blake Layfield; Laini White;
Madison DuBose; Emree Wright**

• APPRECIATION •
From **Ruth Sturdivant** for cards and prayers.

From **ABAC BCM**

From **Providence School of Tifton**

• CONGRATULATIONS •
Bryce & Bertha Gilder on the birth of their daughter,
Charlette Rose Gilder, on September 15th. Proud grandparents
are Michelle & Tony Hammond.

Elizabeth Bostick on turning 102 on September 18th!

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR
BEACON VIA EMAIL ONLY?**

Let us know by calling the church office at 229-382-6063
or emailing Ansley Griner at agriner@fbctifton.org

THIS WEEK AT FBC

SEP 28-OCT 5, 2026

MON	10:30am	Staff Meeting (MSH)
	1:00pm	Game Day for Senior Adults (Concourse)
TUE	9:00am	Facilities Team Meeting (Conference Room)
	10:45am	Joyful Sound Choir (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	War Room (C105)
		1st-5th Grade Choirs
	5:30pm	WNK - Wednesday Night Kids (Gym, Craft Room)
	5:45pm	3 year, 4 year & Kindergarten Choirs
	6:00pm	Middle School Gathering (Gathering Room/Sanctuary)
	6:45pm	Adult Choir (Choir Room)
	7:00pm	High School Gathering (Gathering Room/Sanctuary)
THU	6:30pm	Celebrate Recovery (Chapel/MSH)
FRI		Church Office/FLC Closed
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

OCT 4&11 Starting Point - New Member Class

OCT 10 Worthy on Mission

OCT 12-15 Suwannee River Retreat for Senior Adults

OCT 15 Men's Life Lunch

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF EVENTS,
MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER, VISIT
[FBCTIFTON.ORG/EVENTS](https://fbctifton.org/events)

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PERIODICAL
POSTAGE PAID
at TIFTON, GA

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