the BEACON

USPS 548-820

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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TJ MAULDIN
Lead Pastor

THE PEOPLE OF GOD

I have spent much time reflecting on the sermon from this past Sunday, and it still amazes me that when God could have used anything to remedy the problems among the people of God and provide a blessing to the people of God, He chose to use **the people of God.**

The ordinary, multifaceted, quirky, complicated, and kind miracle of people.

I have often said that God uses broken instruments to construct the most amazing orchestra, and that orchestra, playing to the rhythm of King Jesus, is the local church.

Oh, how I wish you could feel the weight and see the beauty of this incredible reality! That after giving us the Son for salvation and the Spirit for sanctification, God has provided His people as the hands and feet of His kingdom. People to carry burdens, run the race, sing the songs, visit the sick, write the cards, and serve as an ever-glaring reminder that we have this treasure in jars of clay.

You and I are the instruments God has chosen to deliver the good news to this world. You and I get to be the burden-bearers God has placed in this world. You and I are the tear-drying, shoulder-lending friends of sinners, and we have taken up the very cross that demands our lives in humble, Christ-centered, others-focused service.

My encouragement is simple: Stop looking to the sky for a miracle and start recognizing the miracle God has already placed all around you.

Friendship, community, accountability, Sunday school, small groups, Sunday gatherings, and every opportunity you are given to be among the people of God are gifts of His grace.

Choose to maximize those gifts. Listen well. Serve quickly. Speak kindly. Love fiercely.

The world needs to see one of God's greatest miracles. The world needs to see the people of God serving the people of God, honoring the people of God, bearing the burdens of the people of God, and loving the people of God.

As we do, the world gets a glimpse of the beauty of King Jesus through the lives of ordinary people transformed by extraordinary grace.

This is the pathway to becoming a church that ever increasingly loves God, loves people, and multiplies disciples.

Gratefully,

TJ



MARCIA STAUB
Kids Ministry Director

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It is the time of year when we start thinking about giving to others. One easy way for your family to participate in a mission project is to grab a red-and-green shoebox from the church, take it to the store, and fill it. When you participate in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox ministry, you help provide a tool that connects to the Gospel around the world. The filled shoeboxes are used as a Gospel presentation tool, and any kid who encounters Jesus in a life-changing way is followed up with using discipleship materials.

I love to participate in the Shoebox Project with my son. I allow him to choose the items, pack the box, and draw a picture. We then register our box through the online payment system so we can see where it ends up in the world. This is a fun way to introduce giving and the Gospel to our kids.

Boxes are located for pickup all around the church. Please return them to us by Sunday, November 22.

Marcia



KATE MURRAY
Student Ministry Associate

STUDENT MINISTRY: JAMAICA MISSION TRIP PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

We are taking a group of 15 high school students to Jamaica in the Spring of 2027! While we are there, we will serve alongside of American Caribbean Experience (ACE). Our students will have the opportunity to serve, share the Gospel, and be the hands and feet of Jesus in the community.

To assist our students in raising funds, we are hosting a Pickleball Tournament on November 14th at the YMCA Pickleball Courts. We would love for you to join us for a fun day of friendly competition while supporting our students as they prepare to serve in Jamaica.

You can sign up at fbctifton.org/events or in person at the FLC desk.

Thank you for helping us make this opportunity possible and for partnering with us as we share the love of Jesus!

Kate

FIRST FACTS & FIGURES

SEPTEMBER 2026

BUDGET GIVING

Monthly Offering	$288,697
Offering to Date	$2,384,757
Expenses to Date	$2,432,811
Budget to Date	$2,541,049

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

Contributions to Date	$1,483,910
Total Cost	$2,300,000
Loan Balance Owed	$970,913

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 1804 average

SMALL GROUP ATTENDANCE 706 average



KENNY MILLER
Executive & Groups Pastor

DEACON UPDATE

The calling to serve as a deacon has always been a calling of humble service to the local church body. It recognizes men who have demonstrated faithful service to the church and have been set apart to serve in this role. At FBC, our heart and desire is for the deacons to meet the qualifications outlined in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and to be living examples of Christian servanthood. Through their character, relationships, and actions, deacons should demonstrate a sincere love for Jesus and his church.

As we prepare for this coming year, we are grateful for God's continued provision of faithful men who are willing to serve. With this in mind, we would like to present the following men who have been elected by the church body to begin serving as deacons in 2027. Please join us in praying for these men and their families as they prepare to serve. Matt Smethurst said it this way, "When deacons flourish, the whole congregation wins." Pray that God would be glorified by the deacon body of FBC Tifton.

Gary Baxter
Jason Bishoff
Michael Dukes
Nathan Johnson
Lynn Kelley
Josh Mallard
Caleb Rice

Kenny



MICHELLE HAMMOND
Accounts Payable & CR Staff Liaison

SUWANNEE RIVER RETREAT RECAP

Last week, some of our senior adults enjoyed a wonderful time together at the Suwannee River Retreat. Surrounded by God's beautiful creation, we shared fellowship, laughter, worship, and meaningful conversations. Our theme, "Listening," reminded us of the importance of quieting our hearts to hear God's voice, listening to one another with love, and being attentive to His guidance in our daily lives. We are grateful for the memories made, the friendships strengthened, and the spiritual encouragement received. Thank you to everyone who participated; you made this retreat a blessing!

"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." – 1 Samuel 3:9

CELEBRATE RECOVERY HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

We are excited to once again offer our delicious homemade holiday side dishes as an annual fundraiser. As we have done in previous years, these dishes will be available to help make your holiday meals a little easier and more enjoyable. This year, we will be offering:

Chicken Dressing
Sweet Potato Crunch

Additional details, including pricing, ordering information, and pickup dates, will be announced soon. Thank you for supporting Celebrate Recovery through this holiday fundraiser. We look forward to serving you and helping make your holiday season special!

Michelle

Georgia Baptist MISSION GEORGIA

$13,600
REC'D TO DATE

$20,000
OUR CHURCH GOAL

• SYMPATHY •

Tracy Ingram in the death of her mother, **Patricia Pearson Medlin**, of Danielsville, Georgia.

Jessie Tucker, in the death of his grandfather, **David Shorty Tucker**.

Pam Keith (Mallory Ward), in the death of Pam's mother and Mallory's grandmother, **Doris Edna Goodman Blanchard**.

Mike Snipes in the death of his mother, **Lillian Knight Snipes**, of Pelham, Georgia.

The family of **Anthony "Tony" Quinney**.

• NEW MEMBERS •

Jason Atkins; Emily Bishoff; Allison Carter; CC Elliott; Todd Hammack; Casey Moore; Logan Moore

• BAPTISMS •

Bill McKinney; CC Elliott; Karma Adams; Rylee Dean; Annalise McKindra; Juliet Ganun; Tristen Sullivan

• APPRECIATION •

From **Providence School of Tifton**

• CONGRATULATIONS •

Congratulations to Caleb & Rebekah Ludecke on the adoption of their son, **Emmett West Ludecke**, on September 15, 2026. Proud grandparents are Jerry & Judy West.

Congratulations to Drew & Hannah Rucker Harrison on the birth of their son, **Grant Andrew Harrison**. Proud grandparents are Keith & Julie Rucker.

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

OCT 26-NOV 1, 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)*
	5:00pm	**Family Night at the Farm** *(Rutland Farms)*
THU	6:30pm	Celebrate Recovery *(Chapel/MSH)*
FRI		*Church Office/FLC Closed*
SUN	8:30am	Connection Worship I Service *(Ministry Center)*
	9:45am	**Starting Point - New Member Class**
	9:50am	Small Groups for all ages
	11:00am	Cornerstone Service *(Sanctuary)*
		Connection Worship II Service *(Ministry Center)*

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT 28	Family Farm Night *(Rutland Farms)*
NOV 1&8	Starting Point - New Member Class
NOV 11	India Mission Trip Interest/Recap Meeting
NOV 14	Jamaica Mission Trip Pickleball Tournament
NOV 18	Thanksgiving at FBC

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF EVENTS, MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER, VISIT

FBCTIFTON.ORG/EVENTS

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Mark Myers, *Minister of Recreation & Sr. Adults*
Jose Lopez, *Hispanic Pastor*
Kiet Le, *Vietnamese Pastor*