

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 9AM- ADULT / YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM- PREK / CHURCH SERVICE 10:45AM- CHILDREN'S CHURCH	3	4 11AM- WOMEN'S PRAYER HOUR	5 6:15-8:30PM- MOVEMENT YOUTH	6	7 8AM- MEN'S PRAYER HOUR AT MISSIONS COFFEE	8
9 9AM- ADULT / YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM- PREK / CHURCH SERVICE 10:45AM- CHILDREN'S CHURCH	10	11 11AM- WOMEN'S PRAYER HOUR 6:30PM- YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP	12 6:15-8:30PM- MOVEMENT YOUTH	13	14 8AM- MEN'S PRAYER HOUR AT MISSIONS COFFEE	15
16 9AM- ADULT / YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM- PREK / CHURCH SERVICE 10:45AM- CHILDREN'S CHURCH CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER	17	18 11AM- WOMEN'S PRAYER HOUR	19 6:15-8:30PM- MOVEMENT YOUTH	20	21 8AM- MEN'S PRAYER HOUR AT MISSIONS COFFEE	22 FBC MEN'S BREAKFAST 8:30AM
23 9AM- ADULT / YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM- PREK / CHURCH SERVICE 10:45AM- CHILDREN'S CHURCH BBQ NIGHT IN THE PARK 5-7PM	24	25 11AM- WOMEN'S PRAYER HOUR 6:30PM- YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP	26 6:15-8:30PM- MOVEMENT YOUTH	27	28 8AM- MEN'S PRAYER HOUR AT MISSIONS COFFEE	29  YOUTH GROUP TAHOE TRIP- VIKINGSHOLM
30 9AM- ADULT / YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM- PREK / CHURCH SERVICE 10:45AM- CHILDREN'S CHURCH	31					

AUG

2026

AUG BIRTHDAYS

1 - Nancy Deniston
3 - Bert Moll
30 - Hayden Guilfoyle

AUG ANNIVERSARIES

6 - Mike & Kelly Carlin
7 - Jimmy & Colette Stewart
7 - Stuart & Melanie Fraser
8 - Warren & Janel Raynor

FROM THE DESK OF

AUGUST 2026

PASTOR STUART FRASER

Remembering a Faithful Servant: Dr. Gideon Manda

Dear FBC Family,

It is with sadness, but also with great confidence in the promises of Christ, that I want to inform our church family of the recent passing of our friend and missionary, Dr. Gideon Manda of Mzuzu, Malawi. Gideon had dealt with some health concerns in recent years, but his sudden passing still came as a shock to me and to many who knew him. He had appeared to be doing well, but last month he was admitted to the hospital and passed away unexpectedly the following day. Those in Malawi are still mourning his death and seeking the Lord's direction concerning the future of the church he recently planted.

For approximately five years, our church has had the privilege of supporting Gideon and his ministry in Malawi. He was a faithful pastor, teacher, and servant of Christ who devoted his life to preaching the Word of God and strengthening the church in his country. Over the years, Gideon served in several areas of Christian leadership in Malawi, including with Life Ministry Malawi, CAPA (Central African Preaching Academy), and the Evangelical Association of Malawi. More recently, he had begun a new work in Mzuzu through Anchor Bible Church International, where he was laboring to establish a church firmly rooted in the Scriptures.

Gideon was more than simply one of the missionaries our church supported. He was also a dear friend of mine. I first came to know him through the Doctor of Ministry program at The Master's Seminary. We were part of the same program and graduated together in May of 2022. Spending time with him, I quickly came to appreciate his love for Christ, his commitment to Scripture, and his desire to see pastors in Malawi faithfully preach the Word of God. After graduation, in the summer of 2022, I had the privilege of traveling to Malawi and doing ministry with Gideon in Mzuzu. Together we conducted a pastors' conference where we sought to encourage and equip local pastors for the work of biblical ministry. That trip gave me an even greater appreciation for Gideon's ministry and for the



530-885-8458



stuart.fraser@fbcauburn.com



198 Almond Street
Auburn, CA 95603



fbcauburn.com





530-885-8458



stuart.fraser@fbcauburn.com



198 Almond Street
Auburn, CA 95603



fbcauburn.com

love and respect that so many pastors and Christians in Malawi had for him.

Perhaps one of the most fitting summaries of Gideon's life came from his own words. His final Facebook post simply said, "Your best life as a Christian begins when this life is over." Those words now carry an added weight. Gideon preached about the hope of eternal life, and now he has entered into the presence of the Savior whom he faithfully proclaimed. As Paul wrote, "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain" (Phil 1:21). While Gideon's death brings sorrow to his family, friends, church, and the many people whose lives he influenced, we do not grieve as those who have no hope. Our confidence is that the promises Gideon preached throughout his ministry are the very promises in which he now rejoices.

I have waited to share this news with the congregation because there have been discussions among those who knew Gideon through the doctoral program, as well as believers in Malawi, about ways we might practically care for his family. One possibility has been raising funds to help provide a home for his widow. Those plans have not yet been finalized, but I will keep our church family informed as more information becomes available and as we learn how we might best assist his family. In the meantime, I would ask you to pray for Gideon's widow and family, for Anchor Bible Church International, and for the many Christians and pastors in Malawi who are mourning his passing. Pray also that the ministry Gideon invested his life in will continue to bear fruit for generations to come.

Gideon's life is a reminder that faithful ministry is not measured by fame, size, or recognition, but by faithfulness to Christ and His Word. Our church had the privilege of playing a small part in supporting that faithfulness, and I am thankful that we did.

May the Lord raise up many more men in Malawi who will follow Gideon's example by loving Christ, preaching His Word, shepherding His people, and finishing the race faithfully. Near the end of his life, the Apostle Paul wrote, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith" (2 Tim 4:7). In many ways, Gideon could say the same. I will miss my co-worker in the gospel, fellow pastor, and friend. But I will see him again.

In Christ, Pastor Stuart Fraser

