



March 15, 2026

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

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Announcements

Evening Worship and After Church Fellowship

Join us at 6:00 p.m. for Evening Worship! Ralph and Elaine Elliott will be with us, sharing about their work in Belgium. Bring a snack to share for the After Church Fellowship to follow.

Senior Saints' Lunch

The Senior Saints will have lunch together at Carrabba's Restaurant on Abercorn on Tuesday, **March 17**. Sign the list in the hall and meet at the restaurant at 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Night

This Wednesday, we'll have Corned Beef and Cabbage for supper at 5:30 p.m., Adventure Club at 6:20, Youth at 6:30, and Bible Study at 6:45. Sign up in the hall for suppers!

Family Easter Event!

Please register online for this event for preschoolers through sixth graders as soon as possible! Invite folks you know to participate as well! Use the QR code below, or go to fabchurch.com and click the link under the Welcome graphics to register! There is also a link on our website.

Family Easter Event
Saturday, March 28
11:30 to 1:30
Fellowship Hall
Inflatables, lunch,
games, egg hunts,
and crafts!
FREE EVENT!

Easter Morning April 5

Breakfast ❖ 8:45 a.m.
Sign up!

**Worship
10:00 a.m.**

*Includes
Communion*

No evening service

Continued on p. 6

March 15, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship
1 Chronicles 29:11
Pew Bible p. 357

Prayer of Praise

Greeting

(When singing begins, please make your way to your seats and sing along!)

*I'm so glad I'm a part of the fam'ly of God;
I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!
Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,
For I'm part of the fam'ly, the fam'ly of God.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #143, bulletin p. 8
"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

Prayer of General Confession

Tom Keller
Numbers 6:24-26
Pew Bible p. 114

Hymn #129, bulletin p. 9
"Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor"

Scripture Reading

John 12:23-36
Glen Martin
Pew Bible p. 899

Hymn, bulletin p. 10
"How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

Message

Bob Dimmitt
The Beauty & Pain of Discipline
Matthew #123
Matthew 18:15-18, Pew Bible p. 823

Hymn, bulletin p. 11
"Now Unto Him"

A.M. Notes

The Beauty & Pain of Discipline

Matthew #123

Matthew 18:15-18

1 Corinthians 5:1-5

2 Corinthians 2:5-11

Luke 3:8

Stage one – one on one confrontation

Stage two – take others with and confront again

Stage three – tell the church

Stage four – excommunication

Can they attend church? In most cases yes—they cannot serve and cannot take communion

Pray for them, help them (use wisdom)

Isaiah 1:16-18

Church Disciplined Summarized

In an era where tolerance is often confused with love, the subject of church discipline can feel uncomfortable—even controversial. Yet Scripture presents it not as cruelty, but as compassion. Not as punishment, but as protection. Not as rejection, but as restoration.

A healthy church must be both gracious and governed by truth. Without discipline, the church becomes compromised. Without love, discipline becomes harsh. Biblical church discipline balances both.

What Is Church Discipline?

The discipline in the church is the biblical process of correcting sin among believers for the purpose of restoration, purity, and the glory of God.

The word “discipline” is related to “disciple.” It implies training, instruction, correction, and spiritual formation—not mere punishment.

Key Definition: *Church discipline is loving, biblical correction applied within the local church to restore a sinning believer and protect the body of Christ.*

The Foundation: Matthew 18

The Four-Step Process in Matthew 18:

1. Private Confrontation – Address the sin personally.
2. Small Witness Group – Bring one or two witnesses.
3. Tell It to the Church – Involve church leadership.
4. Separation – If unrepentant, treat as an outsider.

This progression shows patience, not haste. Restoration is always the goal.

A Biblical Case Study: 1 Corinthians 5

Here we see:

- Public sin
- Public correction
- Corporate responsibility

Paul’s concern was both the sinner’s soul and the church’s purity.

The Purpose of Discipline

1. Restoration of the Believer

Gal 6:1-*Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.*

The goal is not humiliation, but healing.

2. Protection of the Church

Sin spreads. Paul warns 1 Corinthians 5:6: *Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?*

Unchecked sin weakens the entire body.

3. Preservation of Christ’s Reputation

The church represents Christ. When open sin is ignored, the testimony of the gospel suffers.

4. Reverence for God

Discipline reminds believers that God is holy. The church must reflect His character.

What Church Discipline Is NOT

- ✘ Not gossip
- ✘ Not revenge
- ✘ Not public shaming
- ✘ Not controlling minor preferences
- ✘ Not harsh authoritarianism

It is never about ego or power—it is about obedience to Scripture.

When Should Church Discipline Be Practiced?

Church discipline applies to:

- Ongoing, unrepentant sin
- Public, scandalous behavior
- Doctrinal heresy
- Divisive conduct

It does not apply to minor disagreements or personal preferences.

The Heart Attitude Required

Biblical discipline requires:

- Meekness
- Humility
- Prayerfulness
- Impartiality
- Love

Without these, discipline becomes destructive.

What Happens When Churches Ignore Discipline?

When discipline disappears:

- Sin becomes normalized
- Holiness declines
- Membership becomes meaningless
- Church authority weakens
- The gospel witness suffers

A church without discipline is spiritually fragile.

What Happens When Discipline Is Done Biblically?

When practiced properly:

- Repentance increases
- Church unity strengthens
- Spiritual growth deepens
- Christ is honored

In fact, in Second Epistle to the Corinthians 2:6–8, Paul later urges the church to forgive and restore the disciplined believer—showing the full cycle of correction and reconciliation.

Continued from p. 1

Palm Sunday

On Sunday, **March 29**, the Adult Choir will present *No Greater Love* during Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. Come join us in the sanctuary as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ with music.

Good Friday Service

We'll have a Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m. Friday, **April 3**. Please join us for this time of worship and reflection.

Old Savannah City Mission

Tom is serving lunch at the OSCM on Saturday, **April 4**. The Youth & Young Adults are scheduled to help. Let Tom know if you can help, too!

Easter Morning

On Sunday, **April 5**, the day begins with Breakfast at 8:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is a free breakfast buffet with almost everything you can think of available. Please invite folks and sign up in the hall! Morning Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. and includes communion. There is no Sunday School or Evening Worship.

Tom Keller is planning two trips for the church and wants to gauge interest!

Museum of the Bible

On **May 4-6, 2026**, the plan is to take a train to Washington, DC, spend a day at the Museum of the Bible, and return to Savannah by train the third day. If you share a room, the cost will be between \$250 and \$300 per person. That includes the train ticket, museum ticket, and hotel. Meals and souvenirs are the only other expense. If you are at all interested, please sign the list in the hall for Tom to make final plans.

Caribbean Cruise

In **January 2027**, he'd like to put a Caribbean cruise together, but will not plan anything until he sees if enough people want to go. So if that sounds fun to you, sign that list asap!



We are praising the Lord for our loving church family since Johnny's recent illness and accident. Our gratitude for faithful prayer warriors is humbling. Prayer avails much as Christ has demonstrated in our lives so many times! He has proven Ephesians 3:20 over and over again throughout the years. We know our bodies are frail and life is fragile, but we know Christ will accomplish His purpose in our lives. We will never forget all His benefits.

Love and thanks to all.

Johnny & Sandra Bridges

Important Upcoming Events



March:

15	Evening Worship with Ralph & Elaine Elliott	6:00 p.m.
15	After Church Fellowship	7:00 p.m.
17	Senior Saints' Lunch: Carrabba's	11:00 a.m.
28	Family Easter Event (See page 1!)	11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
29	Easter Cantata	6:00 p.m.

April:

3	Good Friday Service	7:00 p.m.
4	Lunch at Old Savannah City Mission: Youth & Young Adults	11:00 a.m.
5	Easter Breakfast	8:45 a.m.
5	Easter Morning Worship with Communion	10:00 a.m.
7	Elders' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
14	Deacons' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
24-25	Women of Light Spring Conference	TBA
26	Quarterly Members' Meeting	TBA

May:

2	Lunch at Old Savannah City Mission: Laws and Fowlers	11:00 a.m.
4-6	Train Trip to Washington, DC	TBA
5	Elders' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
12	Deacons' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
15	Senior Adult Spring Picnic	TBA
17	After Church Fellowship	7:00 p.m.
19	Election Day	
20	Adventure Club Last Day	
25	Memorial Day; Office Closed	
28	Wedding Shower for Brooke Illsley (Cole Morris)	7:00 p.m.
30	Men's Fifth Saturday Breakfast	7:15 a.m.

Save these dates:

D-3 Camp:	June 13 through 19
VBS:	June 22 through 26
Children's Camp:	July 27 through 30

Rejoice - the Lord Is King!

CHARLES WESLEY, 1707-1788

DARWALL

JOHN DARWALL, 1731-1789



1. Re - joice - the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
2. Je - sus the Sav - ior reigns, The God of truth and love;
3. His king - dom can - not fail - He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come



Re - joice, give thanks, and sing And tri - umph ev - er - more:
 When He had purged our stains He took His seat a - bove:
 The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus giv'n:
 And take His ser - vants up To their e - ter - nal home:



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re - joice!



Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor

Words and Music by:
Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

1. Christ, the sure and steady an-chor, in the fu - ry of the storm;
2. Christ, the sure and steady an-chor, while the tem - pest rag - es on;
3. Christ, the sure and steady an-chor, through the floods of un - be - lief;
4. Christ, the sure and steady an-chor, as we face the wave of death;

When the winds of doubt blow through me, and my sails have all been torn.
When temp - ta - tion claims the bat - tle, and it seems the night has won,
Hope - less, some-how, O my soul, now lift your eyes to Cal - va - ry,
When these trials give way to glo - ry as we draw our fi - nal breath.

In the suf - f'ring, in the sor-row, when my sink-ing hopes are few;
Deep - er still then goes the an-chor, though I just - ly stand ac-cused;
This my bal - last of as-sur-ance, see His love for - ev - er proved.
We will cross that great ho - ri - zon, clouds be - hind and life se - cure;
D.S. Christ, the shore of our sal - va - tion, ev - er faith - ful, ev - er true.

D.S. for refrain
I will hold fast to the an - chor. It shall nev - er be re - moved.
I will hold fast to the an - chor. It shall nev - er be re - moved.
I will hold fast to the an - chor. It shall nev - er be re - moved.
And the calm will be the bet - ter for the storms that we en - dure.
We will hold fast to the an - chor. It shall nev - er be re - moved.

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Stuart Townend

D Em D/F# G D/F# D/A A

1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how vast be - yond all meas - ure that
2. Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, my sin up - on His shoul - ders. A -
3. I will not boast in an - y - thing: No gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom. But

3 D Em D/F# G D/F# A D

He should give His on - ly Son to make a wretch His treas - ure. How
shamed I hear my mock - ing voice call out a - mong the scof - fers It
I will boast in Je - sus Christ: His death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why

5 D Em D/F# G D/F# Bm A

great the pain of sear - ing loss. The Fa - ther turns His face a - way as
was my sin that held Him there un - til it was ac - com - plished; His
should I gain from His re - ward? I can - not give an an - swer. But

7 D Em D/F# G D/F# A D

wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.
dy - ing breath has brought me life. I know that it is fin - ished.
this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

Now Unto Him

♩ = 96

C G7sus G7 C/E/C C/E F F7 F G7 C/E C/E

Now un-to Him who is a - ble to keep you from fall - ing And to

5 F G7 Gsus/E Am B♭ B♭ E♭ Gsus G F G7

make you stand in His pres - ence blame-less and with great joy, To the

10 Am Cmaj7/G C/GF7 G/E F/D E7 E7/G#Am F

on - ly God our Sav - ior, through Je - sus Christ, our Lord, Be the glo - ry and the

15 C/E F C/E F/D Em Em7 F7 G7/F F/GG C

maj-es-ty, do - min - ion and au - thor-i - ty, Both now and for - ev - er. A - men!

Articles

Six Gospel Antidotes to Anxiety

By Brady Hanssen

We live in an anxious world. While these are certainly challenging times, in Christ we do not have to be anxious. We have a Father in heaven who knows us, loves us, and provides for our needs. Our Father is not anxious, and neither must we be. In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gives us six antidotes for the spiritual ailment of anxiety (Matt 6:25-34).

Repent of the Sin of Anxiety

Three times in Matt 6:25-34, Jesus commands us not to be anxious: *“Do not be anxious about your life”* (v. 25), *“Therefore do not be anxious”* (v. 31), and *“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow”* (v. 34). Anxiety has become an accepted sin in our day. It is often treated as a purely physical condition rather than a spiritual issue. But humans are a composite of body and soul. Our physical bodies affect our spiritual well-being, and our spiritual well-being affects our bodies. Sometimes the most spiritual thing we can do is eat, drink, rest, or sleep. Alongside these practical steps, we are called to trust God and turn from the worry that displaces faith in Him.

Rely on God’s Loving Provision

In verse 25, Jesus asks, *“Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?”* He argues from the greater to the lesser: if God has given you life and a body (the greater), He is certainly capable of providing food and clothing (the lesser).

In verse 26, He points to nature: *“Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”* Birds wake up each day with enough to eat. If God cares for the birds (the lesser), He will certainly care for us (the greater).

In verses 28–30, Jesus gives a second illustration about clothing: *“Consider the lilies of the field... even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field... will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?”* If God adorns the grass and flowers with beauty (the lesser), He will surely clothe us (the greater).

Realize Anxiety’s Ineffectiveness

In verse 27, Jesus asks, *“And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?”* The answer is obvious: nobody. Anxiety accomplishes nothing; in fact, it is counterproductive. Psalm 139:16 reminds us, *“Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.”* The Lord has sovereignly ordained the number of our days before we were even born. Worrying about our life will not extend it beyond the days that God has given us.

Remember God’s Omniscience

In verses 31–32, Jesus says, *“Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ Or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.”* God knows and provides for our needs. While we may think we understand what we need, He sees the full picture far better than we ever could.

Rank Spiritual Needs Over Physical Needs

Verses 31–32 show that the Gentiles prioritize food, drink, and clothing. Secular people are often preoccupied with their physical needs at the expense of their spiritual wellbeing. It is no accident that Jesus taught about storing treasure in heaven rather than on earth just before addressing anxiety. The more we accumulate earthly treasures, the more tempted we are to worry about protecting, increasing, and holding onto them. As Jesus said in Matt 6:21, *“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

But what does Jesus call us to do instead? In verse 33, He says, *“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”* To seek the kingdom of God is to submit to Christ’s rule and reign in our hearts. It means turning in repentance and faith to King Jesus and pursuing the practical righteousness of God—bringing every aspect of our lives under His will. Seeking the kingdom means prioritizing His rule over building our own, trusting that God will provide for our needs as we faithfully follow Him.

Refocus on the Present

In verse 34, Jesus says, *“Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”* Here, He highlights that anxiety is often future-focused. Instead of worrying about what is ahead, we are called to focus on the present, because God has given us enough grace for today’s challenges. Just as the Israelites collected manna daily, and as Jesus teaches us in the Lord’s Prayer—*“Give us this day our daily bread”*—God provides for each day in its time. He desires a daily, trusting relationship with us. We are to live fully in today, not wishing it away for tomorrow, and be content with what the Lord has graciously given. ❖

Missionary of the Week

Empower SAV Women's Healthcare Savannah, Georgia

ThriveExpress is now called Empower SAV! Working through United for Life to His Glory, Empower SAV is saving babies from abortion, sharing the gospel, and empowering families!

They provide life-affirming options to anyone facing an unexpected pregnancy, offer healing to those affected by abortion, and equip and strengthen families in our community.

They provide NO-COST health care to women and couples considering abortion and provide life-affirming options and free services like pregnancy testing, life-saving ultrasounds, and more.

Research shows that 1 in every 3 to 4 women will make an abortion decision over the course of her life. They provide a confidential place for those in our community who have been impacted by abortion. Through Bible studies and peer support, we offer the hope and freedom that is found in Jesus for those grieving after an abortion.

From their website:

Our Mission

To provide life affirming alternatives to women in our community who are the most vulnerable to poverty, predators and exploitation.

- Informing those in the Body of Christ of the current tragedy in our city regarding abortion, sexual exploitation of women and children, and how our children are being misinformed by the world.
- Introducing solutions and techniques that will allow the truth and the restoration power of Jesus Christ to influence those currently in harm's way.
- Inviting those who are able to see the vision to invest in the solutions!

Our Vision

To encourage and engage the Body of Jesus Christ to stand UNITED for the eternal lives of those perishing and the lives of the unborn.

How We Serve

WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE

Empower SAV Women's Healthcare operates a state-of-the-art medical center and medical mobile unit. The antidote to Planned Parenthood. Visit EmpowerSAV.org to learn more.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

We invite our community to be involved in LIFE issues through partnerships with Sidewalk Advocates for Life, Embrace Grace, and Students for Life of America and

our Enforcement Team that is now being developed to research current laws and policies to find out if the health and well being of women is a priority in our community.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM FOR WOMEN

Grace Place - It is our goal to provide transitional housing for women and children facing homelessness and living conditions that are unsafe and morally unacceptable. This will be our antidote to welfare and poverty.

SUPPORT AFTER ABORTION

We offer confidential, no-cost appointments and resources to women who have experienced the trauma of abortion to help them find spiritual and emotional peace. Learn more about healing after abortion.

EDUCATION

Our heart is to equip young women and men with essential life skills, parenting support, and healthy decision-making tools through our Empowered Life University. We are also excited to announce the upcoming launch of Empowered Women's Self-Defense with details coming soon!

We want to equip students with pregnancy and STI prevention education; empowering them with healthy life choices to reach life-long goals as we instill a deep respect for every human life.

From February 2018 through February 2026, 2,309 women who have come to Empower SAV abortion-minded and vulnerable have chosen to carry their baby to term!

unitedforlifetohisglory.org
empowersav.org

Nursery March 15

Babies:

Eleanor Bowden, Mary Fowler,
Kay Stanford

Toddlers:

Tricia Morris, Linnea Posner

Preschoolers:

Taylor & Courtney Pelton

Nursery March 22

Babies:

Jay & Lisa Rowe

Toddlers:

Sona Bailey, Charlotte Denney

Preschoolers:

Jimmy & Tammy Kicklighter

Right Now Media

If you would like a free subscription to Right Now Media use this link:

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/fabchurchga>

or scan this QR code:



If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see any of the pastors after the service, drop a note in the foyer offering box indicating your desire to talk with a pastor, or call the church office.



Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from

www.fabchurch.com/sermons

This Week at FABC!

Today

Coffee Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship: Ralph & Elaine Elliott	6:00 p.m.
After Church Fellowship	7:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Senior Saints' Lunch: Carrabba's	11:00 a.m.
Women's Bible Study: <i>Hebrews, Part 1</i>	11:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Supper: Corned Beef & Cabbage	5:30 p.m.
Adventure Club	6:20 p.m.
Youth	6:30 p.m.
Adult Bible Study: <i>Practical Sanctification</i>	6:45 p.m.

Thursday

Senior Adult Bible Study: <i>Isaiah</i>	10:00 a.m.
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Hearing assistance devices for services in the sanctuary are available on request at the sound booth.

Lockup Deacons for March:

Ron Fowler, Eric Horton

Sunday School Classes and Descriptions

Adult

Questions & Answers	Fellowship Hall:	Bob Dimmitt
Daniel	Youth House:	Steve Posner
Union with Christ	Gym Overhang:	Tom Keller

Children and Students

Babies	Room 3:	Kay Stanford, Sandra Bridges
Toddlers	Room 24:	Taylor & Courtney Pelton
Pre-K	Room 25:	Dustin & Emily Herb
K, 1st and 2nd Grade	Room 28:	John & Pam Humphrey
3rd-6th Grade Boys	Room 202:	Ric Zittrouer, Richie Mills
3rd-6th Grade Girls	Room 204:	Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton
Youth Guys & Girls	Room 206:	Bobby DeLoach, Shawn Champion, Avalon DeLoach