

Team Reports for Business Meeting 8/16/2026

Bereavement Team

Expressions of sympathy and prayers go out to Doug and Linda Felton and family in the loss of Doug's mom, Sandra. Members of the Care Team enjoyed weekly visits with Sandra when she was at the Village and later when she lived with Doug and Linda here in Alachua. A meal was provided for the family following the service here at our church.

Pam Schultzer and family lost step-father and granddad, Mike O'Sullivan, in June. Mike and Pam's mom, Patty Mashburn, were married for 25 happy years before Patty's passing in 2025.

Long-term member Jerry Smith passed away in June. Over his years at FBC, Jerry served in many positions of service and was the dream and resources that helped to make the Family Ministry Center a reality. Following his memorial service in July, we had an ice cream reception. We continue to extend sympathy and prayers to Laura, May, Marjorie, and their families.

Care Team

The Care Team has continued to be active throughout the summer, visiting and transporting people who have needs. We have several in the church who are grieving lost ones, and we are attempting to minister to them in any way we can. We are always blessed by the people we serve as much as we hopefully bless them. We would ask the church to please let Sandy Crane or me know of anyone in the church with needs we may be able to help meet.

Community Outreach & Missions Team

A budget proposal for the upcoming year was submitted to Stewardship. The request is for \$7,600.00. This includes \$3,000 for International Missions, \$1,000 for Domestic Missions, \$1,200 for Local Missions, and \$2,400 for "Continued Support" (TCM and Operation Christmas Child).

There have been discussions regarding a possible foreign mission trip to Guatemala. Canvas Church has been going to Guatemala for the last several years and partnering with Catalyst Resources International. Members of Canvas have assisted in building houses and churches, establishing feeding programs, conducting VBS, supporting medical and dental clinics, and providing chicken coops for needy families. There was discussion of making this a Christmas Break or Spring Break trip so that families could go on the trip together.

Another alternative for a foreign mission trip was Colombia. Unfortunately, Joel Feagin alerted us this week that there was an earthquake in Colombia on 8/10. Approx. 40 people died, and there was damage to the mission church that Joel has been working with over the last 6 years. Joel will be contacting the mission group from Trenton that he has worked with in the past to see how to help. There may be a future request for monetary resources or a call for interested parties to go to Colombia to assist.

Trish Kearney is working with an organization that helps children in need. A large number of stuffed animals had been dropped off at the church, and there may be a request in the future for toys/blankets donations.

Decorating

In addition to the regular monthly changing of church décor, we helped with the VBS décor and replaced the wall décor in the 200 building classrooms after they were upgraded.

Food Distribution Report

Food distributions are conducted by our team of volunteers on the second Saturday of each month. Items distributed to our clients are obtained from Bread of the Mighty Food Bank, located in Gainesville. Bread of the Mighty is affiliated with the Feeding Northeast Florida organization. Our team has conducted three distributions since our last report, the last being on August 8th. We served a total of 359 households and fed 953 people. This past Saturday, we served 139 families and fed 338 souls. We greatly appreciate the continuing support for our program by our church members and the faithful volunteers who assist us at our distributions.

Greeters/Guest Ministry

Nothing to report at this time.

Helps

Two projects for the same person: fixed ceiling damage in two places, which took several short visits, and fixed a lawn tractor tire that was leaking.

Hospitality

We had a churchwide luncheon on 07/26 and then membership 101 on 08/09/26.

Keenagers

June: The group enjoyed a great time of fellowship at Cedar River.

July: We had a salad supper followed by singing from the Bosier family.

August: We enjoyed a cookout tailgate followed by singing from the Howell family.

It's been a great summer of fellowship and good times together!

Operation Christmas Child

Children's Church will have a shoebox packing party on October 4th at 11:00 am. The M&Ms fundraiser will begin August 16th, and the donations received will help purchase some of the gifts needed for the Children's Church Packing Party.

The Santa Fe River Team Project Leader Workshop will take place at FBCA on September 19th at 10:00 am in the FMC.

National Collection Week Prayer meeting at FBCA will be November 7th at 9:00 am

FBCA will be a central drop-off site for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes November 16-23.

Prayer Team

The Prayer Team met on August 5th and discussed ways in which this ministry may grow and reach out to as many people as possible who need prayer. Realizing that “prayer is the backbone of the church and our lives”, we continually strive to share the power of God through prayer. We encourage other members to join us, and we would love for you to sign up to serve in the Prayer Room one Sunday. The sign-up calendar is kept in the lobby, on the wall by the mirror, or you can let any Prayer Team member know of your desire to serve.

We will hold our Annual Community Prayer Walk on Saturday, October 10, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., and all members are welcome to join us.

The Good Cup

No update.

Adult Sunday School & Small Groups

All of our Sunday school classes are beginning the new church year back in their classrooms, with many enjoying freshly renovated spaces. Thank you to everyone for being so flexible during this period of construction. We now have clean, fresh spaces, an ADA-compliant bathroom in the education wing, and a brand-new Sunday school room ready to host a new class!

With the growth and changes in our young adult class, a new class targeting college and career, ages 18-24, has launched. This allows our existing young adult class to focus on the 25-and-up group that has expanded in our church over the past couple of years. You will continue to see introduction videos to our adult classes in the morning services as we continue to work through highlighting each class option. We will have updated class lists available to guests and prospective class members in the church foyer, children’s foyer, and Wednesday night adult Bible study room to highlight the content and location of each class.

Family Ministry Intern Program

Our intern program has been a vital aspect of growing existing programs and establishing new ministries for our children and students. As these ministries have begun to thrive and we have hired a new Student Ministry Director, the Intern program has been suspended until such a time when it may be deemed necessary again. We are so thankful for the work of our past interns in the time of transition, and we are excited about the future of these essential ministries of the church.