



## **THOUGHTS FROM OUR TRANSITIONAL PASTOR**

#### Be A "Rock" for FBC! (Matthew 16: 13-20)

In the famous story of the visit of Jesus and the disciples to Caesarea Philippi, Peter shined in his responses to Jesus. It had not been long since Jesus had grasped the Big Fisherman from near death when he was sinking beneath the waters when a storm arose on the Sea of Galilee. But this day was different. Jesus and his disciples had entered "Caesar territory," and Jesus was curious as to who people thought he was. "Well," some of them said, "they think you are one of the dead prophets or John the Baptist come back to life." I wonder if Jesus just rolled his eyes and thought, "Mercy." Jesus then focused on his beloved associates. "In view of all that, who do you say that I am?"

It was here that Peter got it right. "You are the Messiah, the son of the Living God." Good for Peter! He came up shining this time. Jesus then blessed him for understanding God's revelation. And then came a wonderful commissioning of Peter. "You are Peter (Petros) and on this rock (Petra) I shall build my church." Peter was to be a "living rock" for God's church. And indeed, he was! What a great commissioning. Jesus says that he is going to build his church on "living rocks like Peter."

The meaningful play on words in this scripture presents the same opportunity to us. Jesus can build First Baptist Church on "solid rocks" like us. I want to be one of these "solid rocks," and I am certain you do as well. May we be a people who are sure who Jesus is and want him to know he can count on us to be faithful, committed, and eager to serve the Kingdom through our church during these transition days. Only Jesus builds the church. We know this. But we can be his dependable servants.

Be a "rock" for FBC in the months and days ahead!

Michael G. Cogdill Transitional Pastor



# **JOYS, CONCERNS, NOTES**

## **RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS**

- John Costantini

## **CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

- to Craig and Kim Sparks upon the dying unto Christ of Craig's mother, Evelyn Sparks, on 8/10.

- to Joyce and Will Pait upon the dying unto Christ of Joyce's sister, Mary "Lib" Elizabeth Holmes, on 8/15.

## NOTES OF GRATITUDE

Carolyn and I are so grateful for the kindness and generosity the church expressed at my retirement party and our final Sunday. We thank the committee that planned the celebration: Brenda Harrell, Katie Roscoe, Maria Martin, Cleta Hubbard, Gretchen Stroud, Janice Mann, and Jamie Kipfer. A friend recently told me it was the best retirement party he had ever attended. The evening was a joyous mixture of fun, humor, and celebration. I will always recall that evening with a grateful heart. Then on Sunday, the congregation's generous love gift overwhelmed us. Also, thank you for the stationary bike. I have already burned quite a few calories on that new bike. Carolyn and I have read through our notes, and your love and kindness have been uplifting and inspiring, making the transition more bearable. Thank you for every expression of your love and grace to us! Remember, God "who began a good work in you will bring it to completion in the day of Christ."

In Christ, David

#### Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the expressions of love and support during Paul's illness and following his death. We are grateful for all the loving care shown to us.

Love, Lisa Daley & family

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Giving Goals for Aug. 20, 2023	19,115.78
Budget Offerings Received on Aug. 20, 2023	31,631.70
Total Budget Offerings Received in 2023	794,762.80
Giving Goal Thru Aug. 20, 2023	831,686.11
Receipts to Date Comparison with Goal:	36,923.31

# SECOND QUARTER 2023 VS SECOND QUARTER 2022

As of June 30, 2023, we were \$66,561 behind our giving goal; however, our budgeted receipts were \$7,312 more than our expenses. As of June 30, 2022, we were \$64,411 behind in our giving goal and our receipts were \$21,588 more than our expenses.

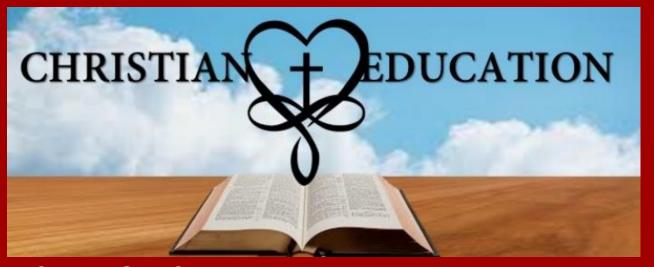
The balance in the Capital Improvement Fund on June 30, 2023, was \$60,776.

The Annie Armstrong Easter and CBF Global Missions Easter Offerings collections exceeded our \$6,500 goal by \$108 as of June 30, 2023, and is \$610 less than in 2022. In addition, our Pentecost Offering goal for 2023 to benefit the Woman's Missionary Union of NC and the NC Baptist Men was \$3,500, as of June 30, 2023, \$2,660 has been contributed, \$840 below our goal and \$815 less than June 30, 2022.

The balance of our General Endowment Fund through the second quarter of 2023 is \$426,378. The Jeannie H. Jordan Memorial Endowment for the benefit of Sonshine Learning Center has a balance of \$76,692 and the Memorial Youth Fund has a balance of \$111,422.

During the second quarter of 2023, we have supported several Missions, including Cameron Boys' Camp, Camp Duncan, Sandhills Coalition, Moore Free Care Clinic, CBF Missionaries – Carson & Laura Foushee, Changing Destinies Ministry, Kairos NC prison ministry, sent our youth and college members on mission trips in Florida, and helped local people in need.

Submitted by Annette Saunders, Financial Administrator



## **NEWS & NOTES** FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION & ADMINISTRATION

## FALL SCHEDULE IS BACK!

- Wednesday, September 6, 2023
- Wednesday Suppers 5:00pm
- Wednesday Night Bridgepoints 6:00pm
- Wednesday Night Music and Missions 6:00pm
- Middle School Bible Study 6:15pm

Mark your calendars...our regular Wednesday night programming starts back on Wednesday, September 6.

## FALL BRIDGEPOINTS

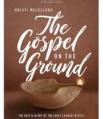
## The Gospel on the Ground: The Grit and Glory of the Early Church in Acts

Come along as we unpack the life of the early church in the book of Acts. In this 7-week study, we follow along with biblical culturalist Kristi McLelland as she shows us that the kingdom of God is always on the move, always looking outward to bring meaning and joy to a world searching for true fulfillment and hope. Explore the call of Jesus to His disciples then and to us today. See how God's Word can sustain us even in the most difficult of times and embrace the transformative grace we experience as children of God in His kingdom of celebration.

Participants in this study will use a study book that includes video access for their home computer or smart device. This study is intended to be a 'deep dive' into the book of Acts. The study book and the accompanying videos will be used in the class sessions on Wednesday nights and at home in preparation for the weekly discussion. Books with video access can be purchased at a discount from the church for \$10. Call Pat Boland (910-692-8750) to pre-order your copy.

This study is being recorded for those who cannot attend in person. You can find the link to watch at <u>www.fbcsp.org/</u> <u>bridgepointrecordings</u>. Recordings will be posted each week a few days after the study takes place.

Facilitator: June Vetter Time: Wednesdays, 6 pm Dates: Sept. 6 – Oct. 18 Location: Room 208



#### The Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5-7

An important section of scripture is Matthew 5-7, known to us as the Sermon on the Mount. This scripture is the first of five major units of teaching material in Matthew. On Wednesday evenings for six weeks, come explore Jesus's teachings in this section of scripture. The heart of the Sermon on the Mount is this question: "What does a Complete Christian look like?" Jesus gives pictures and teachings that answer this need. We'll enjoy engaging discussion on topics like going the second mile, practicing the Golden Rule, and loving our enemies. I look forward to sharing this study with you.

Facilitator: Mike Cogdill Time: Wednesdays, 6 pm Dates: Sept. 6 – Oct. 11 Location: Room 216



## SUNDAY SCHOOL GUIDE INFORMATION

The Connections Sunday School Study Guide and Reflections devotional are available electronically in both an .epub and .mobi (Kindle) formats. If you would like to use the electronic versions, email jkipfer@fbcsp.org to be added to the distribution lists. Materials are published three times per year. The current series is for January-April 2024.





## **FBCSPYG** HAPPENINGS



Sunday, Sept. 10, 17		
Sunday School	9:45am - 10:45am	
JuBELLation	4:00-4:45pm	
Youth Choir (9-12)	5:00-6:00pm	
Youth Bible Study (6-8)	5:00-6:00pm	
Youth Supper (6-12)	6:00-6:30pm	
Youth Choir (6-8)	6:30-7:30pm	
Youth Bible Study (9-12)	6:30-7:30pm	
Sunday, Sept. 24		
JuBELLation	4:00-5:00pm	
One Voice	5:00-6:00pm	
Youth Supper	6:00-6:30pm	
Youth Crazy Night: Photo Scavenger Hunt	6:30-7:30pm	
*No Youth on Sunday, Sept. 3rd due to Labor Day		

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sept. 15-17 Leaving @ 2pm	Youth Rafting Trip
Oct. 20-22 Leaving @ 2pm	Fall Retreat to Blue Ridge Assembly (Middle School)
Nov. 10-12 Leaving @ 11am	Fall Retreat to Caswell (High School)

## YOUTH RAFTING RETREAT

#### Friday, September 15- Sunday, September 17

Get out your life vests and paddles - we are going **rafting**! We will head to the Blue Ridge Assembly in South Asheville where we'll go **white water rafting**! Mark your calendars now. The cost of this trip is **\$160 per person**, **plus the cost of one lunch and one dinner**. Money is due by Sunday, August 27. There are **30 spots available**, so sign up now! This trip is open to Rising 6th grade thru 12th grade. Hope to see you there.

## FALL RETREATS

#### Friday, October 20-Sunday, October 22 and Friday, November 10-Sunday, November 12

Due to the number of students that sign up to go to the Fall Retreat, we will do two trips again this year. The Middle School Weekend will be in October at Blue Ridge Assembly is Asheville and is open to 6th-8th grades. The High School weekend will be in November at Caswell and is open to 9th-12th grades. These Fall Retreats will fill up fast, so get your deposit in ASAP. The cost of the trip is \$165.00 for Middle School and \$195 for High School.

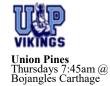
## YOUTH OUTREACH PROJECTS

September 10	<b>College Care Packages</b> - Youth will send packages to our college students to brighten their day.
October 21	<b>Operation Inasmuch</b> - Youth will be asked to join others in our church to participate in service projects all over our community. This is a church-wide event.
October 29	<b>Trunk or Treat</b> - Youth will pass out Halloween goodies to kids in the neighborhood.
November 8	<b>Operation Christmas Child</b> - Youth partner with our RAs and GAs to fill shoeboxes full of goodies for kids all over the world.
December 6	<b>Children's Christmas Celebration</b> - Youth will have a party with our children with crafts, games and a movie.
December 10	<b>Empty Stocking Project</b> - Youth will adopt two families in the community and give them Christmas. Each youth is asked to buy a \$25 Walmart or food gift card that will be used to buy Christmas for a needy family.

## **YOUTH BIBLE STUDIES**



@ Chick-Fil-A





Thanks for being a part of FBCSPYG! Bryan





# CHILDREN & FAMILIES' MINISTRY



Children and Families of FBCSP,

Thank you so much for your gifts given during Vacation Bible School and for the collection of supplies for our shelter house. It was wonderful to have many of you to help us stock our shelves with your collection of items on August 21. You asked wonderful and caring questions during your tour of the shelter.

Thanks again! Peggy Hendrix, Executive Director

P.S. Thank you for the cards of encouragement for our families also!

Here's what's coming up for the Children & Families' Ministry at First Baptist:

## SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday School is provided for all ages beginning at 9:45 on Sunday mornings. During Sunday School, children learn stories from the Bible and how they apply to our lives today.

## **Music & Missions on Wednesday Nights**

Join us on Wednesday nights for Music and Missions. We offer programming for kids ages 3 years old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Here's the schedule:

5:00-6:00 PM Supper 6:00-7:15 PM Music and Missions 6:00-7:15 PM Nursery (for children under 3)

## **OPERATION INASMUCH**

Saturday, October 21

Join us for Operation Inasmuch on Saturday, October 21 from 8:00am-12:00pm! This is a great opportunity to serve

people in our community and we hope our entire congregation will make a commitment to be involved! We will also have childcare and projects for kids to participate in at the church.

## TRUNK OR TREAT

#### <u>Sunday, October 29 – 4:00-6:00 PM</u>

Join us for trunks, candy, and FUN! Sign up to host a trunk and/or donate candy, and come join us! This year we are excited to partner with Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church for this event.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX PACKING

#### Wednesday, November 8

Children in Grades 1-5 will start with Music in their regular classrooms at 6:00 PM. At 6:30 PM, instead of having RAs and GAs, they will move upstairs to the Youth Room to pack Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes with the youth. We will bring them back downstairs for pickup at 7:15 PM. If you are able, please donate items to fill the shoeboxes. The boxes will be dedicated in the worship services on Sunday, November 12.

## PARENTS, STAY CONNECTED!

Ms. Lauren sends out a weekly email called "Three Things on Thursday" to keep families in the loop and we also have a private Facebook group for FBCSP Kids – Parent Info (www.facebook.com/groups/fbcspkids).

Praying for you and your family, Lauren Craig, Director of Children and Families' Ministry





## MUSIC MINISTRY & SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

"I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods, with singing lips my mouth will praise you."

- Psalm 63: 2-5

## SENIORS ON THE MOVE FALL PROGRAMMING

Monday evening, September 11th - Sharon and Paul Murphy



Our dear friends Paul and Sharon Murphy will be providing our September program. Paul is the pastor of Trinity A.M.E. Zion church in Southern Pines, where he and Sharon lead a vibrant ministry. They will sing and play, and Paul will speak. I know we will be blessed! (*Meal reservations needed (5pm), 6:00 program open to all.*) Sign up on Senior Adult bulletin board.

#### Monday, October 9th—The Tenors



The Tenors are coming back and will be providing our musical program on Monday, October 9th. They are a perennial favorite here at First Baptist. We look forward to their return and to the music and testimonies they will share. Monday, November 13th—Nixon, Blevins and Gage



Nixon, Blevins & Gage continue to entertain audiences with their presentation of the emerging genre of the acoustic trio, popularized by groups such as the Kruger Brothers and Blue Country. Loosely based in bluegrass, they bring to the audience the finger-picking, early country music akin to Doc Watson and Merle Travis. This music combines folk, traditional, religious and country in an audience-orientated presentation. A recent review in Raleigh coined their style as "folkgrass". To date they have released five CD's which have been critically acclaimed and have received national airplay.

## CELEBRATION



Marlene Hauser celebrated her 90th birthday recently. A family party was held, as you can see. It is rare to capture this sort of behavior in Baptist life, but not for Marlene.

Enjoy!

-Greg



MISSIONS, SERVING & MORE AT FBCSP

#### MISSIONS

First Baptist Ladies: Mission Action will resume Monday, Sept. 18, at 11:45am in Room 206. Bring a sandwich and a friend as we pray for our missionaries on their birthday. We also will be discussing OIAM; for our project please bring cleaning supplies for the Family Promise Team. These include: disinfecting / cleaning products, buckets to mix cleanser with water, paper towels and window cleaner, work gloves, and small cleaning brushes. Look forward to reconnecting. Bonnie Elhart

#### **LOST & FOUND**

Please check the table outside the sanctuary for any items you may have misplaced.

#### **CHURCH MEMBER NEEDS A RIDE**

Dave Forrest would like to attend the 8:30am church service. Please contact Dave if you are able to give him a ride to this service. Dave's number is 910.315.6325. Thank you.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following families joined FBCSP in July and early August 2023. Welcome to our church family!



Richard & Vicki Brown 7-9-2023



Ryan Kelley 7-9-2023



im & Linda Webre 7-16-23



Ben & Carrie Crenshaw 7-16-23



Bill & Linda DeMay 7-23-23



Jeannie Muse 7-23-23



Sunny Jo Mitchel 7-30-23



**Cole-Bryan** 

7-30-23

R

David Wiley 7-30-23



Cody Hansen 7-30-23



Miller Edwards 8-6-23



Stock Up on SCHOOL SUPPLIES for Operation Christmas Child!

Summer is almost over, and the busy holiday season will soon be upon us! With school starting and supplies being on sale, now would be an excellent time to get a head start on filling our shoeboxes for OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD before the busy season starts!

FBCSP Dedication Sunday is November 12.

FBCSP Collection Week is November 13-20.





## **First Baptist Church**

www.fbcsp.org

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#### **OCTOBER ISSUE OF THE TIE**

If you have news/information that you would like to submit for the next issue of The Tie, contact Pat Boland at pboland@fbcsp.org. The deadline for the October TIE Issue is **September 20**.

#### WORSHIP ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday School at 9:45am and Worship Service at 8:30am and 11:00am. We will continue Livestream at 11:00am online.

#### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office hours are 9:00am - 4:30pm on Monday thru Thursday and 9:00am - 12:00pm on Friday.

#### CHURCH STAFF

Michael Cogdill, Transitional Pastor — mcogdill@fbcsp.org Jamie Kipfer, Minister of Education & Administration — jkipfer@fbcsp.org Greg Lundberg, Minister of Music & Senior Adults — glundberg@fbcsp.org Bryan Moore, Minister of Youth & Students — bmoore@fbcsp.org Lauren Craig, Director of Children & Families' Ministry — lcraig@fbcsp.org Bethany Saburro, Executive Administrative Assistant—bsaburro@fbcsp.org Annette Saunders, Financial Administrator — asaunders@fbcsp.org Pat Boland, Financial & Administrative Assistant, — pboland@fbcsp.org Susan Galbreith, Food Services Director — susang@fbcsp.org Patricia Teague, Food Services Assistant

Cathy Haynes, Organist / Pianist

Amy Chavis, Director, Sonshine Learning Center — slcamychavis@gmail.com