

MAY 16, 2024

First Baptist Church of Eatonton

Messenger

FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST SHARING
GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE WITH ALL



FROM THE PASTOR

As I think about this time of the year, I am cognizant of the young students who are stepping out into new adventures – full time work, military service, college, etc. On the one hand I think how frightening, but then I get a better bearing and think, how exciting! What would it be like to be starting college this fall! The new, fresh ideas! All the new people! The relationships with peers and professors! I cherish those memories, and yes, romanticize a little too much about them. But you have to remember those were the days I met that exotic woman from Miami named Catherine! I had no idea of the things to come. I wish I had more maturity and strength to have more fully embraced that time. So I pray for the students, regardless of the pathway they've chosen, to have the strength and courage necessary. I pray for them to be grounded and freed as they move from their cocoons. May the world become a friend and may wisdom take root within them.

I think of the Word to which I have trusted my life. I pray for them they find the Word in which they can be blessed, challenged and supported. I chose a few of those words for Sunday's worship heading.

"The Lord is my shepherd ..."

"Cast your anxiety upon him who cares for you."

"Jesus – the way, the truth and the life."

"May the peace of Christ be with your spirit."

Such Word has always been a steady guide within my heart and head. Additional Word in other multiple places in the Word as well as in other resources have dialogued with me for years. Such thoughts have for the most part been leading and affirming. Occasionally, disturbing and confusing. But ultimately, I've been gifted with people who helped me hear the Word in the best of ways. It has been freeing. That Word and its people have freed me from so much that sought to bind and oppress. That Word has shed light upon the darkness. The Word has been like a candle that was present in the darkness.

I could go on and on, as I'm sure many of you can. Let us pray for those positive moments of grace to fill the lives of the graduates as they move to another level of living. May grace abound and so grace their lives. May their minds and hearts be opened to a life of grace and mercy. May they have eyes with which to see and ears with which to hear. May their tongues speak life to themselves and to others. May their hands and feet serve them in the Way of Jesus!

In such they will be blessed, as will we.

Peace,
Craig

YOUR IDENTITY IS IN CHRIST

Seniors,

Although we're sad to say goodbye, we're excited to see how you will use your God-given abilities to impact the world. God has a wonderful plan for you, and if you stay faithful to him, you'll see that plan come to fruition. God will use you to change lives, shape hearts, and shine light in a dark world. Remember the wise, powerful words of King Solomon in Proverbs 3:5-6. **"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take."**

As you finish one chapter of your life and get ready to start a new one, always cling to the amazing power of God's love. High school is difficult but trust us, life will only get tougher from here. You'll experience new challenges with every step you take. But you have the love of Christ, which will comfort and encourage you during all of life's hardships. You have the love of family, to support you in these tough times. And, you have the support of our Church always praying for your strength, courage, and wisdom. Always stay committed in your relationship with Christ, continuing from the faith foundation you built during high school.

We pray you will always recognize God's presence in your life, remaining faithful to his perfect love and magnificent purpose. Please keep us updated on all the exciting things you do in the future. Feel free to stop by and say hello when you're back in the area. We'd love to see you!

Remember: Your identity is in Christ. You have the power to truly make a difference in the world.

God Bless,

Dylan

CONGRATULATIONS 2024 GRADUATES



Sabrina Carmichael

Sabrina graduated from Putnam County High School and will be attending the University of North Georgia.

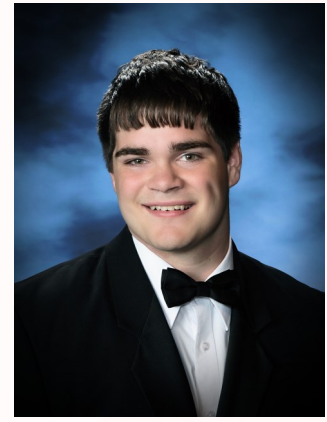
She is the daughter of Ryan and Denise Carmichael and the granddaughter of Harris and Janette McCollum.



Lydia Gailey

Lydia graduated from Gatewood Schools and will be attending Georgia College and State University.

She is the daughter of Michael and Laura Gailey.



Tristan Williams

Tristan graduated from Putnam County High School and will be attending Huntingdon College.

He is the son of Adam Lower and Sara Williams and the grandson of Ronnie and Cheryl Williams.

MUSICAL WORSHIPERS

In Ephesians 4, God tells us that He gives people in His church specific roles. Some are **apostles**, eye witnesses who share what God has done. Some are **prophets** who proclaim God's Word. Some are **evangelists**, enthusiastic advocates of the truth that has changed their own lives. Others are **pastors** who shepherd the flock, or **teachers** who help others grow and exercise their faith. The responsibility of each of these is to equip God's people to build up the church so that the whole body is healthy, growing, and full of love.

Musical worshipers fulfill each of these roles, too. Their hymns like *"To God be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done"* is the very role of an eye witness apostle. They become prophets quoting the opening of Psalm 27, **"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear"** as they sing Chris Tomlin's *"Whom Shall I Fear (God of Angel Armies)"*, and other songs that quote, summarize, or paraphrase God's Word. They can't enthusiastically sing about the God *"Who brings our chaos back into order," "In Christ Alone, My Hope Is Found," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," "On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand," "How Firm a Foundation,"* or our *"Living Hope"* without doing the work of the evangelist, the pastor, and the teacher.

This is why our singing and playing in worship is so very important. It's not just something we do to get ready for the sermon. It's an act of worship, a kind of preaching that we get to do together. We do it for the same reasons our Pastor preaches: to equip God's people to build up the church, both new believers and those who have been Jesus' disciples for many years.

Someone has wisely quipped that every church member is a missionary. The only question is how faithfully we carry out our mission. The same thing could be said of us as musical worshipers who function as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.

As we move into our church's "summer semester," the congregation will become our Choir, with three notable exceptions. On the first Sunday of each month, we'll gather a Summer Choir in the choir loft for a brief rehearsal before Sunday School. On June 9 we'll sing *"Ever In Joyful Song (Praise Him! Praise Him!)"*. Then on July 7, it's *"10,000 Reasons,"* and on August 4 we'll sing the Southern Gospel favorite, *"Movin' Up to Gloryland."* Anyone of any age is welcome to join us!

SURGE Music Camp – June 17-22, Shorter University; 3 simultaneous camps on the same campus for students who have completed grades 3 through high school. Registration is open, and scholarship help is available.

We do all of this so that, "speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." - Ephesians 4:15-16

John



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
Ladies Night
THURSDAY, MAY 16TH
AT 6:00PM
AT KIM CAMP'S POOL AREA

DINNER, DESSERTS, LAUGHTER AND MANY BLESSINGS WILL BE PROVIDED

CONTACT KIM CAMP TO SIGN UP

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER WILL LEAD US IN A GREAT NIGHT. AFTER A LIFE CHANGING INJURY, ATLANTAN TRICIA PATTERSON IS A PARAPLEGIC KNOWN AS "CHICK IN A CHAIR." SHE WILL SHARE THE NUMEROUS WAYS HER BELOVED LORD HAS HELPED HER OVERCOME OBSTACLES IN HER LIFE INCLUDING LIFE IN HER CHAIR.

Join Us For
GRAD SUNDAY
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!
May 19, 2024



MAPPIN FUND
REQUESTS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE MAPPIN FUND SCHOLARSHIP.

THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS FRIDAY, MAY 31

First Baptist Church Office will be closed on May 27

REMEMBER & HONOR
MEMORIAL DAY



JOIN US THIS SUMMER
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH EATONTON
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 9 - 12
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM



Camp Firelight
A SUMMER CAMP Psalms 56:3
ADVENTURE WITH GOD

REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTEATONTON.ORG



SUMMER BREAK
NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES
STARTING MAY 29TH



There will not be a Wednesday Bulletin this summer.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

WELCOMING FOR MAY

Steve and Robin Benton

WELCOMING FOR JUNE

Randall McCook

USHERS FOR MAY

Steve Benton, Head Usher
Randall McCook
Steven Prance
Cooper Rainey
Charles Winslette

USHERS FOR JUNE

Mike Reagin, Head Usher
Don Baker
Tim Camp
Hollis Harrison
Jim Ryan

DEACON FOR MAY 19

Steve Benton

DEACON FAMILIES

Steve Culberson Family, Charlotte Green,
Luceil Harrison, Joseph Rainey Family,
Mike Reagin Family, Steve Tubbs Family,
Sonny Turner Family

DEACON FOR MAY 26

Kim Camp

DEACON FAMILIES

Steve Benton Family, Brandon Cardwell Family,
Daryl Covington Family, Jesse Covington,
Frank Thompson Family, Charles Winslette Family,
Warren Yates

DEACON FOR JUNE 2

Barry Chambers

DEACON FAMILIES

Dylan Bowden, Lisa Herndon,
Anne Marie Horton Family, Leslie Peebles Family,
Jean Rich, Ronnie Williams Family

BIRTHDAYS

05/21 - Patrice Underkofler
05/25 - Jim Ryan
05/26 - Linda Reagin, Tristan Williams
05/27 - Tara Rucker
05/28 - Edge Farley
05/29 - David Dixon
05/30 - James Cheney
05/31 - Thomas Ralston, Joni Dixon
06/01 - Lily Kate McElhenney
06/02 - Blake McDaniel

ANNIVERSARIES

05/16 - Tommy and Amy McElhenney
05/23 - Ronald and Gail Harley
05/25 - Ennis and Caroline Lankford
06/02 - Mark and Joann Smith

THANK YOU

Your kind and thoughtful expression
of sympathy is deeply appreciated
and gratefully acknowledged.

- Janice Knowles and Family

WORSHIP REPORT

<u>Sunday, May 05</u>	<u>153</u>
<u>Sunday, May 12</u>	<u>115</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

MAY 5, 2024

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,200.56</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$12,852.00</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$183,610.08</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$191,993.69</u>

MAY 12, 2024

<u>Budget Needs</u>	<u>\$10,200.56</u>
<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>\$14,433.10</u>
<u>Budget Needs YTD</u>	<u>\$193,810.64</u>
<u>Budget Receipts YTD</u>	<u>\$206,426.79</u>

First Baptist Church
P.O. Box 3400
Eatonton, GA 31024
Return Service Requested



FISH FRY



**Wednesday, May 22
at 6:00PM**