



May 2024

# ***First Family News***

**Love GOD.  
Love Others.  
Change The World.**

*Happy Mother's Day!*

Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all, (Proverbs 31:28-29).

**May 2024  
Worship Opportunities**

**Sundays**

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:00 AM Worship  
4:30 PM Choir Practice  
6:00 PM Youth

**Wednesdays**

11:00AM-12:00 PM Bible Study  
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM—Awana  
6:30 PM Bible Study

**ADDITIONAL MAY ACTIVITIES**

5/5 Senior Adult Day  
5/6 BMW @ 6:30 p.m.  
5/13 VBS Mtg @ 6:30 p.m.  
5/14 Senior Adult Luncheon @ 11:00 a.m.  
5/19 Deacon's Meeting @ 11:30 a.m.  
5/19 Graduate Sunday  
5/25 Men's Ministry Breakfast  
5/30 End of Year MMO Party  
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**OUR FINANCIAL RECORDS  
April 28, 2024**

General Fund Needed Weekly	\$6,875.58
General Fund Needed	\$116,904.86
Given to Date	\$127,216.77
<b>General Fund Overage</b>	<b>\$10,311.91</b>

<b>April 7</b>	Bible Study	64
	Worship	153
<b>April 14</b>	Bible Study	62
	Worship	133
<b>April 21</b>	Bible Study	67
	Worship	127
<b>April 28</b>	Bible Study	76
	Worship	157

**MAY MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS  
Children's Church Workers**

**\*\*Please remember to sign up in the Welcome Center\*\***

**5/5**  
Edith Leaphart & Charlie Boland

**5/12**  
TBD

**5/19**  
Kimberly Gunter & Sherry Gunter

**5/26**  
Felicity Williams & Kelly Williamson

**Safety Teams**

<b>5/5 Team 1</b>	<b>5/12 Team 2</b>
<b>5/19 Team 3</b>	<b>5/26 Team 4</b>

**Deacon of the Week**

<b>May 5</b>	<b>Kim Gunter</b>
<b>May 12</b>	<b>Andy Boland</b>
<b>May 19</b>	<b>Vaughn Ernst</b>
<b>May 26</b>	<b>Leon Addy</b>

**THANK YOU!!!**

First, I want to thank God for His wonderful Miracles He is performing in my life. On April 3, 2024, I could have been meeting God face to face, but He chose to save me. I am so thankful He is still working on me to make me what He wants me to be. Every day I am improving and it is all due to God, my wife, my family, my healthcare team and my friends. Thank you all for the prayers, the cards, the visits, the food, the monetary gifts, the phone calls and the love that you have shared with me and my family. PRAYERS WORK! Don't ever let someone tell you they don't. I am living proof. I have at least six more weeks of recovery, but Praise God I am recovering. This is probably the hardest learning experience that I have ever experienced and I know my life will be better because of it. Again, words cannot express the deep gratitude and love I have for each of you. Thank you for sharing the love of God with me and my family.

In Christ love,

Joshua & Megan Quattlebaum

## **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

5/5 Sheila Cockrell, Rainy Sheppard  
5/11 Dexter Durst  
5/13 Frances Shirley, Eddie Havird, Eddie Cogdill, Gary Holmes  
5/14 Blair Raines  
5/15 Loretta Hix  
5/19 Erica Gambrell  
5/21 James Sullivan  
5/22 Randy Fox  
5/23 Vickie Corder  
5/25 Laken Burgeson  
5/26 Deiadra Gambrell  
5/27 Leon Addy  
5/29 Pamela Fulmer  
5/30 Jonathan Gunter  
5/31 Zack Burgess

## **MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

5/18 Eddie & Melissa Cogdill, Dale & Alice Robertson  
5/19 Kevin & Jennifer Hair, David & Betty Jean Parker

## **Graduates...**

Graduate Sunday is May 19th! Please contact the church office if you have a high school or college senior graduating this year. We would love the opportunity to recognize the seniors!

## **Baby Dedication**

We will be having baby dedication on July 14, 2024. Please contact the church office if you have a child needing to be dedicated!

## **One Call Now**

We are excited to now offer a text option for One Call Now Alerts. Simply text "Alert" to 22300 to begin receiving text alerts.



## **Welcome Team Schedule for May**

### **Team A-Welcome Center**

### **Team B-Foyer**

May 5

Gary & Lynda Smallen

Donna Padgett & Cheryl Paulling

May 12

Ray Cockrell & Dale Robertson

Earle & Tammy Burgess

May 19

John & Van Gantt

Carrie Gantt & Robin Steward

May 26

Vaughn & Kathy Ernst

Dave & Allison Reese

## **Poultry Festival**

### **SC Poultry Festival, May 10th and 11th**

The Children and Youth Department is seeking enthusiastic youth and hourly adult volunteers to supervise our festival booth. If you're attending camp or have children attending camp, consider volunteering for an hour or more. Your contribution will help defer the cost of camp! Let's make this festival egg-citing!

We're still in need of can drinks, bottled water, Gatorade, and chips to sell at the festival. Drop off your donations in the designated area for drinks in the fellowship hall. If you can't bring drinks, monetary donations are also accepted. For volunteering or questions, reach out to Kelly Williamson or Randy Fox.

## **Peach 23 Yard Sale**

We are in need of donations of household items, books, tools, and more for the PeachTree 23 Yard Sale. The event will take place from May 30th through June 1st. Please note that we cannot accept clothing donations. Starting on May 19th, you can bring your items to the church. All items will be sold by donation, so there's no need to price them. Any unsold items will be donated to a local ministry.

## **Our Children's Church needs your help!!**

Our Children's Church is seeking dedicated volunteers to help during Sunday worship. We currently have 3 spots empty for May.

We need individuals to serve the youngest members of our church by volunteering for Children's Church. You can volunteer once or on a scheduled basis. You will receive assistance with planning and gathering materials if needed. And, you can serve alongside a friend, or we can pair you with a fellow volunteer.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer but need help planning and/or materials, please contact Kelly Williamson – 803-604-2136 or by email - [directorchildrenyouthfcbcb@gmail.com](mailto:directorchildrenyouthfcbcb@gmail.com) or the church office.

Thank you for considering this wonderful opportunity to make a difference!

The Long Range Planning Committee has great news to share! Angela Davis has graciously accepted the position of Bible Study Outreach Leader effective immediately. This position was recommended in our approved long range plan. We are so excited that she has accepted this position. Some of her responsibilities will be promoting, growing, and reaching people to gain a deeper knowledge of the Bible and how the Scriptures influence our daily life. Welcome Angela!

In continuing to fill other recommended positions outlined in the Long Range Plan (LRP) May 2024 has been designated as Bible Study Director emphasis month. As of this date, this position is vacant. You will find in each May Sunday bulletin an insert outlining a job description for the proposed Bible Study Director. As a committee, we ask you pray and seek God's leadership. We hope that during this month of May is not only a time to reflect on our Bible Study leadership needs but also to reflect on the importance of being in God's Word. We firmly believe, as a church body, Bible Study is vital to growing the faith within our congregation. If you feel so led, please contact Randy Fox for further discussion.



## RAFFLE



2024 Honda Rancher TRX420FM1  
**\$8,200 value / with winch**  
**\$10 per ticket**

**THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF BATESBURG AT 12 NOON ON SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024**  
*Must be 18 years or older to purchase. See complete rules at [fbcbatesburg.org](http://fbcbatesburg.org)*

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**F i r s t   B a p t i s t   C h u r c h   B a t e s b u r g**

**436 West Church Street  
Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29006**

**FBCB Staff**

Henry Stamper: Senior Pastor 803-687-0131, Stamperx4@aol.com  
Beverly Taylor: Director of Music and Worship 803-206-9084,  
B.taylor4jc@gmail.com  
Laken Burgeson: Ministry Assistant 803-800-7557,  
firstbaptistchurchbatesburg@gmail.com  
Jessica Sullivan: Pianist, 864-200-9029, jess.corley@yahoo.com  
Kelly Williamson: MMO Director & Director of Children & Youth 803.604.2136  
fbcbmmo@gmail.com

**Office Hours**

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
Phone: 803-532-3896  
Website: [www.fbcbatesburg.org](http://www.fbcbatesburg.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**CORRECTLY HANDLING GOD'S WORD**

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV)

Just this week I was on Facebook and came across a meme that highlighted an Old Testament passage of Scripture from Deuteronomy 28:43. The verse reads: "Foreigners who live in your land will gain more and more power, while you gradually lose yours" (Good News Translation). Of course, the purpose of quoting this verse was to make a spiritual point about all the chaos going on at our southern border. On the surface it sounds good and it surely seems to add some spiritual weight to a political crisis facing our nation. However, the harsh reality is that the scripture that is quoted to spiritualize this political issue is blatantly taken out of context.

Like anything in God's Word----context matters! First, this verse is given as a warning and a curse to God's people for their continued disobedience towards God. In fact, Deuteronomy 28:45 tells us why this empowering of foreigners has happened, "because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and gladness of heart." In other words, the foreigners in the land increased in power because God's people decreased in obeying and serving God. So, if we were to make a modern day application out of this verse we would be more correct in saying that the present cause of our "border chaos" is due to our nation's unfaithfulness to the Lord rather than trying to use God's Word to decry foreigners being in our lands. Secondly, the section of Scripture that was used to make this argument comes from the Old Testament Law, the law that God used to govern the nation of Israel. As Christians, we do not fall under the demands of these laws of governance. They were specific to the nation of Israel and God's chosen people.

Now I mention this example because it is one of many you can find on social media today and it highlights a growing danger found far too readily on the internet. Namely, that we as Christians must be very, very careful when we start sharing Bible verses to make political points or use the Bible to sway opinions. Certainly, the Word of God is truth in all matters pertaining to life and issues of life. But truth taken out of context or scripture that is mishandled can lead believers and unbelievers to accept things that just aren't true. Our aim, as in all things, is to honor God. This holds especially true as it concerns God's Word. Just as Paul admonished young Timothy, our task is to "rightly divide the word of truth" (God's Word) so that we will not be "ashamed." Indeed, misquoting Scripture or using it out of context is not the path to honoring God. It's just another path that leads us to shame and regret. So take heed when you quote God's Word. The responsibility to do it "rightly"-----rests on YOU!

In Christ's Abundant Love,

Pastor Henry