



# ***First Family News***

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

**November 2025**



**November 2025  
Worship Opportunities  
Sundays**

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:00 AM Worship  
4:00 PM Cantata Practice  
6:00 Children, F3, G2

**Wednesdays**

11:00AM-12:00PM Bible Study  
6:30 PM Bible Study  
7:30 PM Choir Practice

**ADDITIONAL NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES**

11/3 BMW Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.  
11/4 Men's Ministry Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.  
11/9 Deacon's Meeting @ 11:30 a.m.  
11/16 Thanksgiving Luncheon  
11/27-28 Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving

\*\*\*\*\*

**OUR FINANCIAL RECORDS  
October 26, 2025**

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| General Fund Needed Weekly | \$7,524.47   |
| General Fund Needed        | \$285,938.90 |
| Given to Date              | \$307,610.50 |

|                   |             |     |
|-------------------|-------------|-----|
| <b>October 5</b>  | Bible Study | 88  |
|                   | Worship     | 141 |
| <b>October 12</b> | Bible Study | 78  |
|                   | Worship     | 169 |
| <b>October 19</b> | Bible Study | 77  |
|                   | Worship     | 165 |
| <b>October 26</b> | Bible Study | 80  |
|                   | Worship     | 141 |

**NOVEMBER MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS**

**Children's Church Workers**

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

**11/2**  
Tammy Burgess

**11/9**  
Donna Padgett & Denise Cato

**11/16**  
Tammy Crim & Katie Williams

**11/23**  
Terry Strickland & Amy Strickland

**11/30**  
TBD

**Safety Teams**

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>11/2 Team 1</b>  | <b>11/9 Team 2</b>  |
| <b>11/16 Team 3</b> | <b>11/23 Team 4</b> |

**Deacon of the Week**

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| November 2  | Randy Taylor |
| November 9  | John Gantt   |
| November 16 | Jim Doeblor  |
| November 23 | Paul Havird  |
| November 30 | Leon Addy    |

We are planning to visit the Governor's Mansion to see the Christmas decorations. Dates have not been announced but usually the 1st or 2nd week in December, Tuesday or Wednesday 10:30 and 11:00. Free, but we have to submit a request with an approximate number of people attending. Need to carpool, lunch afterwards at Dutch Treats. Contact Mildred Long 803-461-5580 or Mable Robertson 864-992-8616 if interested & if you can drive.

**Thank you!!!**

My sincere thanks for the many acts of kindness shown to me for the loss of my dear sister. I appreciated all the expressions of sympathy, the calls, cards, food, and most of all the visits! My family and I were humbled by the presence of those who traveled so far to attend the funeral service. I am truly blessed to be a part of this loving church family.

In Christian love,

Mary Ertle

## **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

11/1 Barnette Scott  
11/2 Ben Herlong  
11/3 James Smith  
11/4 Dana Gray, Julie Strausser  
11/5 Betty Brigham, Sid Gambrell  
11/4 Julie Strausser, Dana Gray, Miranda Carlos, Ryan Duvall  
11/5 Sid Gambrell, Betty Brigham, Melody Roberts  
11/6 Cheryl Paulling  
11/7 Annie Parrish  
11/8 Brenda Sheppard  
11/9 Susan Rooks  
11/10 Mark Davis, Joseph Bradley, William Bennett  
11/11 Michelle Smith, Travis Havird, Clark Havird  
11/12 Darantzy Brunson  
11/14 Randy Cockrell  
11/15 Trace Berry  
11/16 Hannah Sullivan, Kimberly Haire  
11/17 Amanda Carvajal  
11/21 Chrissy Havird  
11/22 Bailey Carvajal  
11/26 Joy Gambrell  
11/27 Karen Wiggins  
11/29 Jimmy Copeland  
11/30 Heather Smith

## **NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

11/7 Mike & Tammy Crim  
11/12 Richard & Hailey Wright  
11/14 Bobby & Maxine Chesser  
11/29 Terry & Amy Strickland  
11/30 Randy & Beverly Taylor

### ***From the first office on the left...***

Hi everyone, it's Laken your ministry assistant! November has arrived so quickly. Soon we will be decorating for CHRISTmas! Leaves have reached their beautiful fall colors and some have even begun to fall. God sure does paint the outside with the most vibrant colors using the leaves. Sunsets seem more radiant against the fall backdrop. I love the fall season with all its beauty! November also brings Thanksgiving and we have so much to be thankful for! Cooking and eating our favorite Thanksgiving meal makes November scrumptious! We enjoy watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade as we prepare food to take to my Grandma's for our family day celebration. I love cooking with my children, teaching them my most favorite dishes to bring to the table for Thanksgiving! What is your favorite dish you bring to the table for your Thanksgiving get-together? Two of my favorite dishes to make are broccoli casserole and brown rice. Enjoy your November with your family and friends! We never know when it might be our last Thanksgiving with our loved ones so hug tighter, love harder, and spend quality time together! My favorite verse for November is 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 which reads "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Love in Christ,

Laken

## *Welcome New Members!*



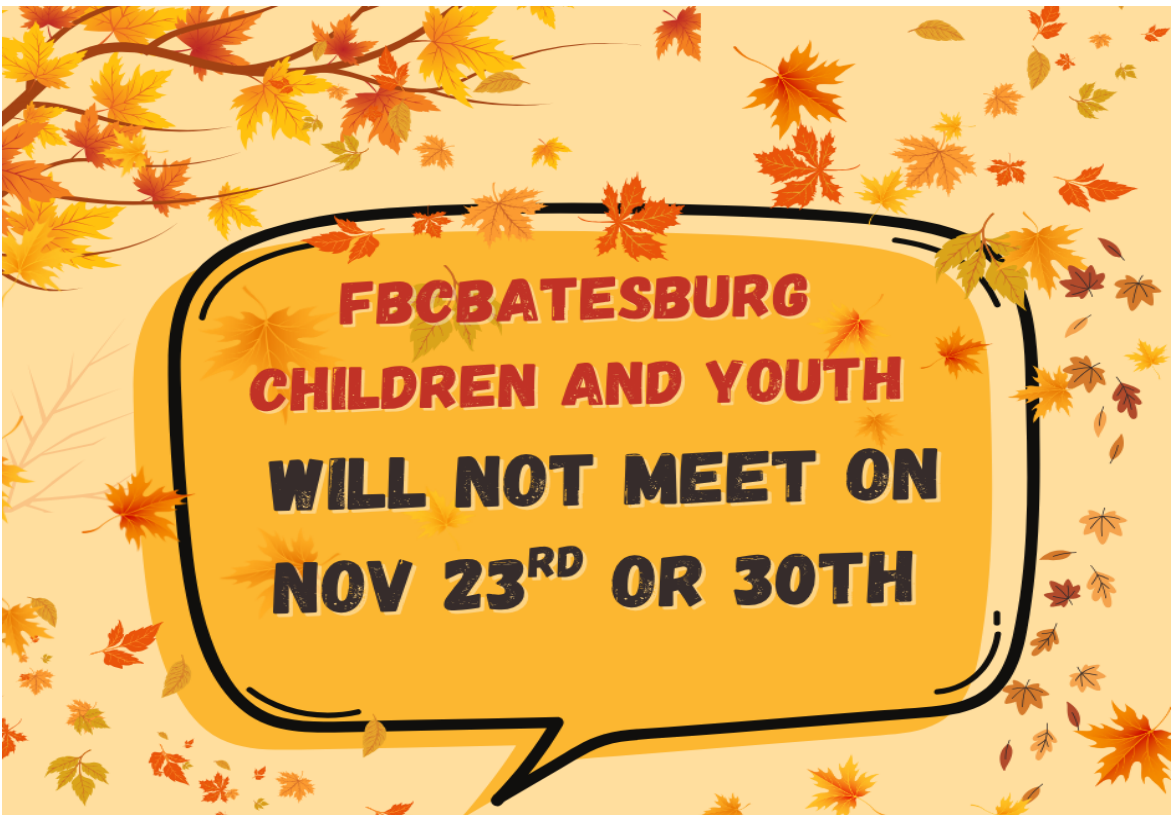
**Hanna Miller & Lily**



**Lucho & Amanda Carvajal**



**Dennis & Karen Stratton**

The background of the top image is a light orange color, decorated with numerous small, stylized autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and brown, along with thin brown branches. A large, rounded rectangular speech bubble with a black outline and a tail pointing towards the bottom left is centered on the page.

**FBCBATESBURG  
CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
WILL NOT MEET ON  
NOV 23<sup>RD</sup> OR 30TH**

The background of the bottom image is white, featuring a watercolor-style illustration of autumn-themed flora. It includes large orange and yellow flowers, smaller pink roses, green leaves, brown acorns, and a large orange pumpkin at the bottom right. The text is written in a black, cursive script font, centered on the page.

*Oh Lord,  
my God  
I will give  
you thanks  
forever!*

PSALM 30:12

## From the Middle Office...

### **A Race to Forty**

In the G2 and F3 groups, we're currently running a "Race to Forty" challenge. Back in August, we challenged our youth to reach attendance of over 40 on three separate nights before December. The reward? A lock-in.

So, why did we create this challenge? Are we just chasing higher numbers? Not at all. It's not about the number—it's about training our youth to invite others to church. It's about encouraging them to reach beyond their usual circle. It's about reminding them to reconnect with those who haven't attended in a while. It's about giving them ownership of their group's growth.

As a youth director, my influence only goes so far. I can text, send cards, make phone calls, and set up group chats—but none of that has the same impact as a quick Snap or Insta from a fellow youth group member. Our volunteers can do all the things, but nothing beats peer influence. After all, this isn't my youth group. It's not even First Baptist of Batesburg's youth group. This is their youth group.

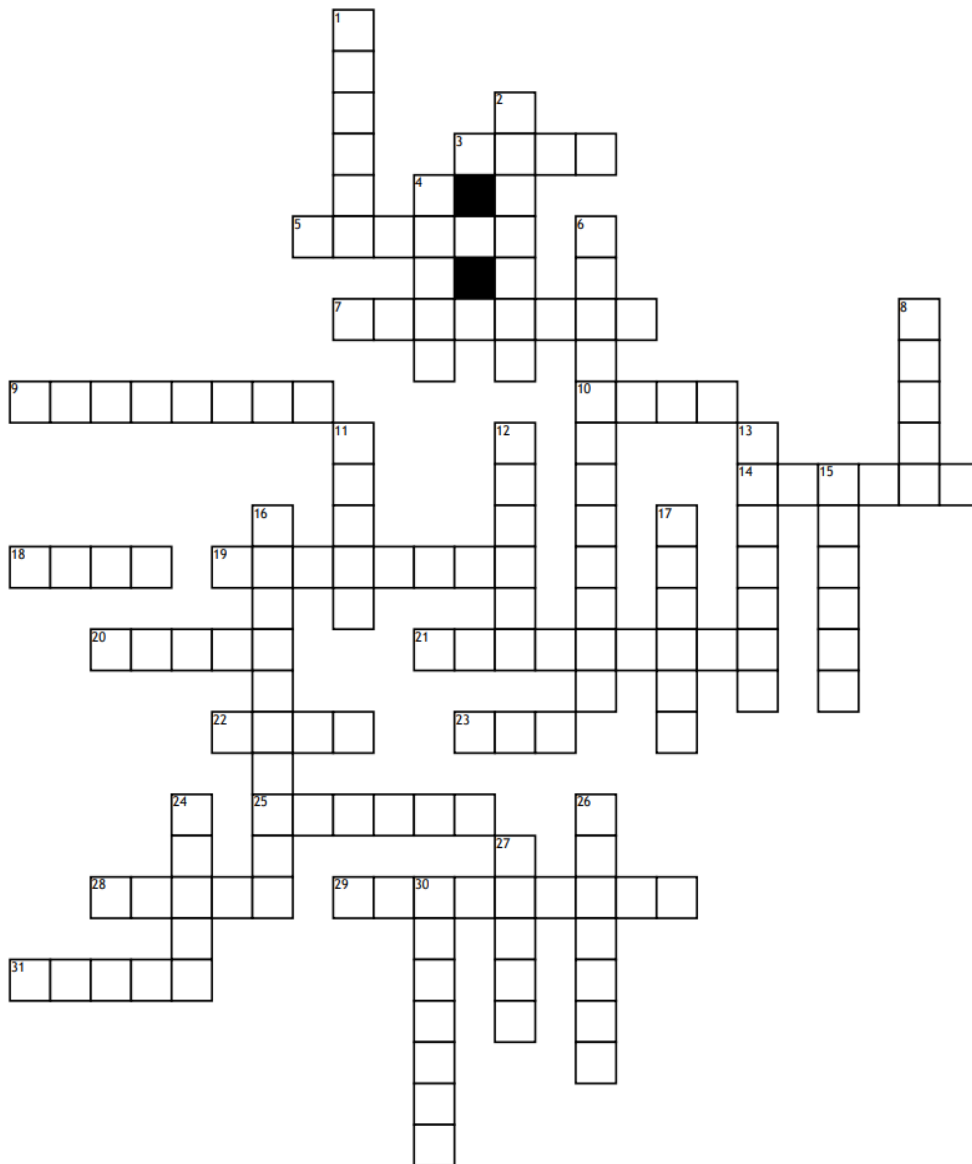
Our youth hold the power and influence over their friends and peer groups—whether positive or negative—in ways adults never could. Their actions determine the outcome. If they decide it's not important, they won't put in the effort. If it's a goal they truly want to achieve, they'll hit the mark.

So, what are they learning? They're learning to become the church. The youth who show up on Sunday evenings are our future. By setting goals and challenges that build habits and accountability, we're shaping future leaders. By encouraging them to take ownership of their group's health, we're preparing them to be good stewards of our congregation.

What if they don't hit the mark? Honestly, we haven't planned for that. Why? Because our leaders believe in them. So far, we've reached 43 on one night and 40 on another—we're still one night short. We've had multiple nights with 38 and 39 in attendance, and they're begging for those to count, asking us to bend the rules just a bit. But we're holding strong. We're putting our faith in them to succeed. We're proud of the effort our youth are putting into this challenge. It's more than a race—it's a reflection of their heart for community, their desire to grow, and their willingness to lead. Whether they reach 40 three times or not, they're already showing us what it means to be the church. Let's continue to pray for them, support them, and celebrate the journey they're on.

~Kelly

# Traditional Baptist Hymns



## Across

3. It is \_\_\_\_\_ with My Soul  
 5. What a \_\_\_\_\_ We Have in Jesus  
 7. Go Tell It on the \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. When I Survey the \_\_\_\_\_ Cross  
 10. Lord, I'm Coming \_\_\_\_\_  
 14. A \_\_\_\_\_ Fortress is Our God.  
 18. O \_\_\_\_\_ Night  
 19. Softly and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is Calling

20. Lake a \_\_\_\_\_ Glorious  
 21. Onward, \_\_\_\_\_ Solidiers  
 22. \_\_\_\_\_ of Ages  
 23. I Surrender \_\_\_\_\_  
 25. We \_\_\_\_\_ Together  
 28. Nothing But the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus  
 29. Blessed \_\_\_\_\_

31. Blessed Be the Tie That \_\_\_\_\_

## Down

1. This is My \_\_\_\_\_'s World  
 2. He \_\_\_\_\_ Me

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Loves Me  
 6. Great is Thy \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Blessings  
 11. \_\_\_\_\_ with Me  
 12. Sweet Hour of \_\_\_\_\_  
 13. \_\_\_\_\_ Grace  
 15. In the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 16. \_\_\_\_\_ of God  
 17. \_\_\_\_\_ Us Again  
 24. Old Rugged \_\_\_\_\_  
 26. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Heaven  
 27. How \_\_\_\_\_ Thou Art  
 30. He Keeps me \_\_\_\_\_

## Bev's Blessing Blog for November

How can I be more thankful, more appreciative and more blessed than to have a church family who truly loves to serve and to minister to each other the way you all have served our family in the last several weeks. Randy's knee surgery and then his father's passing were both traumatic events in his life and in the life of our family and you were there to pray, to cook meals, to drive me to Monetta when I got the call, to listen and to genuinely ask about our well being, to offer to help in any way you could, to send cards, messages, calls, and visits and some of you even took the time to attend the service. When I say God sure did know what he was doing when he placed us at FBCB, well that's an understatement. You are the definition of family—you are living out the word of God by being the hands and feet of Jesus, not just for our family but to every one. I see it in our children's program, our youth program, our women's and men's groups, our deacons, our choirs, our staff, our Pastor, our seniors, and all the many positions of service in our church. 1 Cor. 12:12-13 says, "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For we are one in Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and all were made to drink of one Spirit." As you continue on reading the next verses, the word tells us that all the members of the body are important and have purpose. The 26th verse closes it out by saying: If one member suffers, all suffer together and if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

I am so grateful for each of you, when I count my blessings during this season of Thanksgiving, I will be counting all of you many times over! Thank you for serving God so unselfishly, and thank you for doing your part to be the body of Christ! May God continue to richly pour out blessings on our church and every person who enters in!

I love you all BIG!

Choir practice is every Wednesday evening at 7:30 and we are practicing on Sunday afternoons from 4-5 for the Christmas cantata we would love for you to join us!

The FBCB KIDS CHOIR is also practicing every Sunday afternoon at 5 for the Christmas Musical grades K5-6th!

Many Blessings,

Beverly

## Welcome Team Schedule for November

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Team A--Welcome Center</u>    | <u>Team B--Foyer</u>          |
|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| November 2  | Kathy Ernst & Stephanie Koellner | John & Van Gantt              |
| November 9  | Rhonda Dority & Robin Stewart    | Ray Cockrell & Dale Robertson |
| November 16 | Earle & Tammy Burgess            | Gary & Lynda Smallen          |
| November 23 | Paula Buzhardt & Krista Parrish  | Dave & Allison Reese          |
| November 30 | Tricia Mitchum & Cheryl Paulling | Judy Fox & Donna Padgett      |
| Substitutes | Carlton Clarke, Vaughn Ernst     |                               |



And whatever you do,  
whether in word or deed,  
do it all in the name  
of the Lord Jesus,  
*giving thanks*  
to God the Father  
through him.

Colossians 3:17

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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)

Wifi: godisgood

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## **THE NECESSITY OF BEING THANKFUL**

"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name."

Psalm 100: 4

In our nation today Thanksgiving has become a forgotten holiday. Walk into almost any department store or retail store and everything is already geared up for Christmas. We go from Halloween to Christmas and skip right over Thanksgiving. Sure, we enjoy the days off for Thanksgiving and certainly we enjoy the food and the time with family and friends. Doesn't it say something about us as a nation when we make little or no effort to take the time to be thankful, when the possible profits of Christmas become more important than the opportunity to be thankful?

Doesn't that speak volumes about where we are as a country? That all the ways that God has blessed this nation are now pushed aside for the sake of money and financial gain. Sad, isn't it? And how do we acknowledge all that God has done for us? By turning a cold shoulder of ungratefulness. Or worse, by corrupt thinking that believes that all we have has come from human hands and human effort. That all our bountiful blessings are the result of ourselves and not of God. Sadly, in many ways, that is thinking of many American's today. That God had nothing to do with Americas greatness because we did it ourselves.

Still, the Bible reminds us that one of the purest traits of a true Christian is found in our ability to give thanks. To constantly give thanks to God for all that He has done for us from securing our salvation in Jesus Christ to providing for us every day. For that we indeed have much to be thankful for as individuals, as families, as communities, and as a nation. As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month may our prayer be that we are thankful every day and not just one day out of the year. That we would recognize that all that we have, and will ever have, we have by the gracious hand of God. That's true thanksgiving. A thanksgiving that flows from a grateful and thankful heart. May that be the heart that we exhibit throughout the days, weeks, months, and years of our life—a truly thankful heart.

Hope to see you Sunday as we "enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise."

In Christ's Abundant Love,

Pastor Henry