



First
Baptist
Church of
Batesburg

May 2026

First Family News

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

TRUST
in the
LORD
with all your
HEART
and lean not
on your own
understanding

Proverbs 3:5



**May 2026
Worship Opportunities**

Sundays

- 9:00 AM Bible Study
- 10:00 AM Worship
- 4:00 PM Adult Choir
- 5:00 PM Children's Choir
- 6:00 Children, F3, G2 Activities

Wednesdays

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

ADDITIONAL MAY ACTIVITIES

- 5/4 BMW @ 6:30p.m.
- 5/8 Poultry Festival Booth
- 5/9 Poultry Festival Booth
- 5/11 Prayer Warriors @ 11:00a.m. & 6:30p.m.
- 5/17 Deacon's Meeting @11:30a.m.
- 5/28 MMO Graduation @6:30p.m.

**OUR FINANCIAL RECORDS
April 26, 2026**

General Fund Needed Weekly	\$8,001.02
General Fund Needed	\$104,013.26
Given to Date	\$127,760.00

April 5	Bible Study	90
	Worship	262
April 12	Bible Study	72
	Worship	128
April 19	Bible Study	95
	Worship	178
April 26	Bible Study	81
	Worship	137

MAY MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Children's Church Workers

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

5/3
Tammy Burgess

5/10
TBD

5/17
Donna Padgett & Denise Cato

5/24
TBD

5/31
TBD

Safety Teams

5/3 Team 1	5/10 Team 2
5/17 Team 3	5/24 Team 4
5/31 Team 1	

Deacon of the Week

May 3	Randy Taylor
May 10	John Gantt
May 17	Jim Doebler
May 24	Paul Havird
May 31	Leon Addy

Memoriam

Billy Cockrell

December 16, 1954-April 26, 2026

**Ever wanted to
be apart of an
amazing team
that's making a
dynamic
difference in
the life of a
child?**



**Volunteer for Children's
Church!!**

May Birthdays

5/5 Sheila Cockrell, Rainy Sheppard
5/8 Butch Durst
5/11 Dexter Durst
5/13 Frances Shirley, Eddie Havird, Eddie Cogdill,
Gary Holmes, Brad Bryant
5/14 Blair Raines
5/15 Loretta Hix
5/17 Phoebe Reese, Celeste Jackson
5/19 Erica Gambrell, Ashlyn Ard, Judson Gray
5/21 James Sullivan
5/22 Randy Fox
5/23 Vickie Corder
5/24 Jose Becerra
5/25 Laken Burgeson
5/26 Deiadra Gambrell
5/27 Leon Addy
5/28 Heather Oswald
5/29 Pamela Fulmer
5/30 Jonathan Gunter, Walton Bryant
5/31 Zack Burgess

May Anniversaries

5/18 Eddie & Melissa Cogdill, Dale &
Alice Robertson
5/19 Kevin & Jennifer Hair, David & Betty
Jean Parker, Jim & Dee Doeblor
5/31 Brad & Sonya Bryant



From the first office on the left...

May is a month of blooming flowers, warmer days, and renewed hope, a perfect reflection of the lives we celebrate. Just as spring brings forth new growth, so too does God continually renew our spirits, guiding us into His perfect plan.

My birthday month is May! Nowadays it is not fun to get older but birthdays are more than just marking another year; they are a testimony of God's unfailing love, His protection, and His purpose for each life.

A Bible verse I want to share with you this month comes from Jeremiah 29:11 – "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." This Bible verse is a reminder that your life is in God's hands, and His plans are always good.

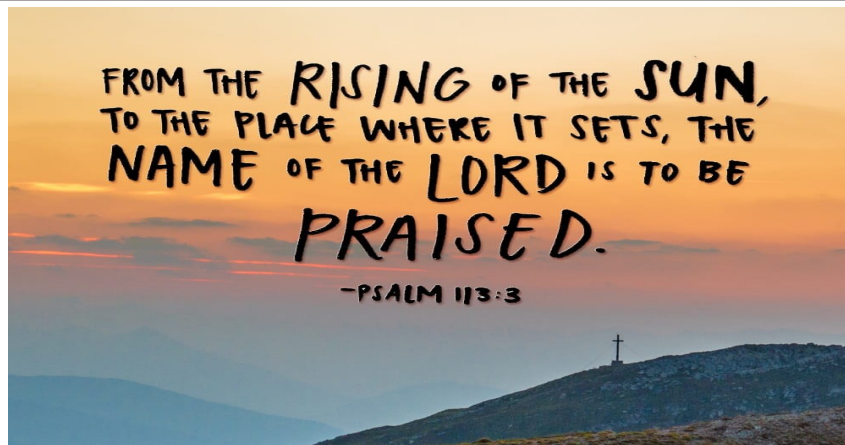
Love in Christ!

Always,

Laken

FROM THE RISING OF THE SUN,
TO THE PLACE WHERE IT SETS, THE
NAME OF THE LORD IS TO BE
PRAISED.

-PSALM 113:3



Beverly's Blessing Blog from the Office Upstairs!

April began with all of our Easter celebrations and I don't think it has slowed down since! That being said I want to just say thank you one more time to our adult choir and kids choir for blessing us with such wonderful music as we celebrated Easter! You gave God your best!

Now May is here! We celebrated with all of our graduates last Sunday and this coming Sunday we will honor all of our Seniors! From the youngest to the oldest, we love you all and we are so honored to celebrate all the many wonderful things God has done and is doing in your lives. Then next Sunday we will honor and celebrate all of the Mothers and Grandmothers God has blessed us with! We have so much to be thankful for, we are truly blessed as a church family to have so many brothers and sisters to share life with and to grow in our faith together as we share God's love with those around us. To all the Mothers and Grandmothers I just want to say thank you for all that you do for your family. Sometimes it may seem that all that you do goes unnoticed but truly it doesn't. You are so loved and valued by God! Never forget that you are a daughter of the King! So when things feel chaotic and you are weary, straighten up your crown and walk in your purpose never forgetting who are and who you belong to!

Colossians 3:16,17 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

May God richly bless you all! I love you dearly friends!
And remember we would love to have you join us in the choir! All are welcome! Choir practice is every Wednesday evening at 7:30. Hope to see you there!

Many Blessings and Much Love,

Beverly

Welcome Team Schedule for May, 2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Team A--Welcome Center</u>	<u>Team B--Foyer</u>
May 3	John & Van Gantt	Stephanie Koellner & Robin Stewart
May 10	Earle & Tammy Burgess	Gary & Lynda Smallen
May 17	Cheryl Paulling & Tricia Mitchum	Ray Cockrell & Dale Robertson
May 24	Rhonda Dority & Kathy Ernst	Dave & Allison Reese
May 31	Paula Buzhardt & Krista Parrish	Judy Fox & Donna Padgett

From the Middle Office

Isaiah 43:19 says, “Behold, I will do a new thing... I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” This is the season when we celebrate graduates—those finishing high school, college, and everything in between. We pray over them, cheer for them, and send them into their next chapter with hope.

But our FBCB Mother’s Morning Out graduates? Their world is a little simpler. They cross the stage thinking, “Don’t fall down,” “Is it my turn yet,” and “Do I get a cookie after this?” Some wonder why their mom is crying, some complain about itchy tassels, and at least one is convinced, “This looks like a dress, and boys don’t wear dresses.” Their biggest concern is why they can’t jump off the stage instead of using the stairs.

Being the Director of MMO has been one of my greatest blessings. This year I honored my third set of high school and college graduates—young adults I love dearly. But nothing tugs at my heart quite like MMO graduation. This is my eighth group of little ones heading off to the great big world of “Big School.” Planning begins months in advance—picking themes, songs, plays, and building slideshows through a blur of tissues and teary eyes. As I scroll through photos, I remember the baby who was too cute for words, the child who overcame so much, the anxious one who blossomed, the one I had to “love through it.” And suddenly, it’s time for them to go. So as they cross the stage, I’m thinking, “Where did the time go?” and “Did someone check ___’s pockets for a live animal?” and “Did we prepare them well?” I wonder if we taught them enough about Jesus, about kindness, about love. And yes, I’m still pretty sure ___ thinks he’s wearing a dress. I already miss these families—parents, grandparents, and everyone who has been part of their little world.

Watching them step forward—some bold, some shy, some waving like they’re in a parade—I’m reminded that God delights in beginnings. MMO graduation may not come with scholarships or job offers, but it comes with something just as powerful possibility. These little graduates are stepping into a new season where they’ll learn to read, make friends, discover talents, and grow into the people God created them to be.

So yes, high school and college graduates deserve applause. But today, I’m cheering for the ones who still need help opening their juice boxes. The ones who believe every day holds something exciting. The ones who remind us that “new things” don’t have to be big to be beautiful. And if they trip crossing the stage—well, that’s part of the charm.

With that said, it would be my joy to invite you to celebrate these precious milestones with us. Please join us for the FBCB Mother’s Morning Out Graduation and Promotion Ceremony on May 28th at 6:30pm. Come ready to smile, laugh, maybe shed a tear, and cheer on our little graduates as they step boldly—and adorably—into their next new thing.

In Christ Love,

Kelly



Camp Longridge

2026

KIDS WEEK #1

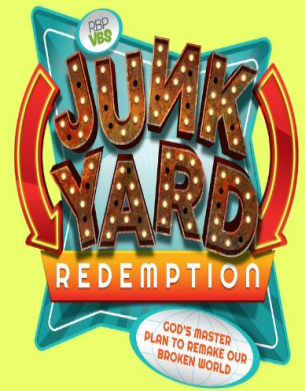
JUNE 8-12

TEEN WEEK

JUNE 22-26

IT'S GOING TO BE A BLAST!!

Mark your calendars!!



VBS will be
July 27-31st
9:00am-12:00pm

PEACHTREE 23

YARD SALE!!!!

\$25/Spot per day

This year the FBCB Youth and Children's Dept. will be offering spots to individuals to rent for the Peachtree 23.

Our locations to rent will consist of the West Church Street Parking Lot(HWY23 Frontage area), the Fox Street Parking Lot(HWY23 Frontage area) and the closed portion of Fox Street.

Contact the church office 803-532-3896 to reserve your spot today.

No food or beverage sales. No promotion of alcohol, tobacco, or recreational/medicinal products or paraphernalia.

FBCB AFTER PROGRAM SCHOOL

2026-27

WHAT WE OFFER

- Homework Support
- Snack
- Free Time
- Trusted Supervision
- Safe, Christian Environment

\$80 per week
\$300 per month
Discounts available

Sign up before March 31st and receive one week free in August!!

Monday-Friday
2:30 pm - 6:00PM

803-604-2136

www.fbcbbatesburg.org/child-care





Ridge Spring – Monetta Middle / High School June 15-18, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Ages: 1st Grade-6th Grade • Camp Fee: \$35
Daily Schedule: Morning sports program, lunch (provided),
and afternoon Vacation Bible School program (Mon-Thurs.)

Have you completed 7th grade and want to help? We have
room for you! 7th grade and up can volunteer below!



Scan for
Camper Registration
1st grade-6th grade

Scan for
Volunteer Registration
7th grade-12th grade and
adults 18 and older*



For more info email or call
Kevin Hinton (843) 560-0239 / pastorkah@gmail.com

**Adults 18 years or older will be required to complete a background screening.

RISE AND SHINE IT'S POULTRY FESTIVAL TIME!!!



WE NEED WATER AND SNACKS FOR THE KIDS TO SELL!! DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

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

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Beverly Taylor: Director of Music and Worship 803-206-9084,
B.taylor4jc@gmail.com

Laken Burgeson: Ministry Assistant 803-800-7557,
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Jessica Sullivan: Pianist, 864-200-9029, jess.corley@yahoo.com

Kelly Williamson: MMO Director & Director of Children & Youth 803.604.2136
fbcmmmo@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Phone: 803-532-3896

Website: www.fbcbatesburg.org

Wifi: godisgood

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WHERE DOES OUR CONFIDENCE REST?

"We are confident of all this because of our great trust in God through Christ. It is not that we think that we are qualified to anything on our own. Our qualification comes from God." 2 Corinthians 3:4-5

In America today self-confidence is often praised as a worthy attribute. We see this especially in sports and business. Men and women who are confident in their gifts, abilities, or talents. Now that may be fine in athletics or business but in the arena of faith, self-confidence is a dangerous and deadly attribute. As I heard a preacher say several years ago, "Self-confidence before the Lord is a fools confidence!" I would agree. When it comes to our faith in God and our usefulness to God self-confidence is often a snare. It trips us up. Or, it can easily lead to pride. In the book of Daniel, Daniel details God's relationship with King Nebuchadnezzar. Especially how the king paid a high price for his self-confidence and pride.

"But when his heart and mind were puffed up with arrogance, he was brought down from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. He was driven from human society. He was given the mind of a wild animal, and he lived among the wild donkeys. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God rules over the kingdoms of the world and appoints anyone He desires to rule over them." Daniel 5:20-21.

It was a painful lesson for a prideful man. Yet, the story asks a question we all have to answer. It's the question: Where do I place my confidence? In myself or in God? Am I doing things my way or God's way? Sadly, there are many who say they believe in God, that they trust in God, but when it comes to how they live their life they are often confident that their way is better than God's way. That they know what's best for their life rather than God. But the Bible is abundantly clear-God's way is always better than our way. No, it may not be easier. In fact, I can promise you it won't be. And it may not be easily understood. But God's will for our life is far greater than our own will for our life. We just have to be willing to trust God more than we trust ourselves. Are we? Are you? I pray so.

In Christ's Abundant Love,

Pastor Henry