



August 2026

First Family News

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

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray
Amen.

AUGUST 2026 Worship Opportunities

Sundays

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

Wednesdays

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

ADDITIONAL AUGUST ACTIVITIES

8/2 Prayer Walk the School @ 2:00 p.m.
8/2 VBS Commencement & Back 2 School Bash 6:00 p.m.
8/3 BMW Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
8/4 Men's Ministry @ 6:30 p.m.
8/9 Vote on Bible Study Teachers
8/9 MMO Open House 3:00 –5:00 p.m.
8/10 Prayer Warriors 11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
8/12 Church Business Mtg @ 6:30 p.m.
8/25 Church Council Mtg @ 6:30 p.m.

OUR FINANCIAL RECORDS July 26, 2026

General Fund Needed Weekly \$8,001.02
General Fund Needed \$224,028.56
Given to Date \$293,693.20

July 5	Bible Study	74
	Worship	137
July 12	Bible Study	75
	Worship	143
July 19	Bible Study	73
	Worship	149
July 26	Bible Study	78
	Worship	135

AUGUST MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS Children's Church Workers

Please remember to sign up in the Welcome Center

8/2
TBD

8/9
TBD

8/16
TBD

8/23
TBD

8/30
TBD

Safety Teams

8/2 Team 3 8/9 Team 4
8/16 Team 5 8/23 Team 1
8/30 Team 2

Deacon of the Week

August 2	Leon Addy
August 9	Dale Wiggins
August 16	Dave Reese
August 23	Neil Cato
August 30	Terry Strickland

We need help
with
Children's
Church.
We have the
tools and the
resources but
we need YOU!

**WE
WANT
YOU**

Sign up is on the Welcome Center Desk

Welcome Team Schedule for August, 2026

Date	Team A--Welcome Center	Team B--Fover
August 2	Stephanie Koellner & Robin Stewart	Earle & Tammy Burgess
August 9	Paula Buzhardt & Patricia Mitchum	Judy Fox & Donna Padgett
August 16	John & Van Gantt	Gary & Lynda Smallen
August 23	Joey Ernst & Krista Parrish	Dave & Allison Reese
August 30	Vaughn & Kathy Ernst	Ray Cockrell & Dale Robertson

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/1 Brandon Boley
8/2 Debby Sullivan
8/5 Jamie Boland, Cheyenne Jackson, Owen Price
8/7 Brittney Crews
8/9 Eric Gambrell, Carolina Goff, Taylor Jeffcoat
8/10 Jess Sullivan
8/12 Rita Crapps
8/15 Wade Cockrell
8/17 Jenny Price, Emma Havird
8/18 James Cogdill, McKenna Mize, Brooks Ergle
8/21 Neil Cato, Margot Burgess, Mollie Lancaster
8/22 Denise Rush, Stephanie Ryan
8/27 Betty Summer
8/30 John Gannt, Karen Stratton
8/31 Helena Bennett, Brody Leaphart

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8/6 Steve & Donna Padgett, Dennis & Karen Stratton
8/7 Steve & Jenny Price
8/8 Mark & Angela Davis
8/9 Dale & Karen Wiggins
8/20 Eddie & Sharon Havird
8/25 Jimmy & Frances Ann Shirley



Encouraging **BACK-TO-SCHOOL** Bible Verses

“This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.”

Philippians 4:6

“So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

James 4:7



VBS Commencement & Back to School Bash

Sunday, August 2, 2026
6:00-8:00

Come see what the Lord has done!
Come hear the songs, see the crafts, and just have a
great time!
We will have waterslides, Pelican's Snoballs and a
time to play and fellowship.

The Nominating Committee would like to thank all those who have volunteered to be Officers, Teachers, Assistants, and Coordinators for Sunday Morning Bible Study Classes as well as those supporting the Shut-in, WMU, and Nursery ministries. Your dedication to these efforts is greatly appreciated! The church congregation will be voting August 9th for the proposed individuals.

PROPOSED - to be voted on August 9, 2026

**First Baptist Church of Batesburg
Officers, Teachers, and Coordinators for Academic Year 2026-2027**

General Officers

Bible Study Administrator: **Pic Hair** Assistants: **Ray Cockrell & Charles Kirkland**
Shut-in Director: **Mary Ergle** WMU Director: **Sheila Cockrell** Nursery Coordinator: **Kelly Williamson**

Sunday Morning - 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Adult Classes:

Class	Teacher/Co-Teacher	Assistant	Room/Location
Senior Adult Ladies - Grace Fellowship Class	Dianne Cockrell	Melissa Cogdill	101
Senior Adults - All God's Children	Jim Doebler	Melissa Cogdill	103
A3/2	Butterball	Jimmy Shirley & John Gantt	204
A3/3	Steve Padgett	Dave Reese & Andy Boland	102
A3/4	Neil Cato & Hubie Tharp	Shila Tharp	203
SonSeekers	Dale & Karen Wiggins	Bradley & Brittney Crews	202
Gen Z	Randy Fox	<open>	Fellowship Hall

Children and Youth Classes:

Class	Teacher/Co-Teacher	Assistant	Room/Location
Nursery/Toddler (Birth - 3 yrs)	Melinda Clark		111
Preschool (Ages 3 and 4 yrs)	Edith Lephart & Mildred Long		110
K5 - 5 th Grade	Donna Padgett & Frances Ann Shirley	Austin Ernst	206
6 th - 12 th Grades	Kevin Hair & Kelly Williamson		210

Sunday Morning Children's Discipleship

Group	Ages/Grades	Room/Location	When/Who
Nursery Care	Birth - 2 years	111	Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. until the end of Worship Service. Staffed by an adult.
Children's Church	K3 - 1 st Grade	206	After the Children's Sermon. Staffed by a Church-wide Rotation of Volunteers - See Kelly Williamson or sign up at the Welcome Center Desk.
Junior Church	2 nd - 5 th Grades	TBD	After the Children's Sermon. The class is led by Kelly Williamson. Volunteers welcome!

Sunday Evening Children and Youth Ministries - 6:00 p.m.

Group	Grades
Kidz Club	4K - 5 th Grade
Growing in God - G ²	5 th - 8 th Grades
Faith, Fellowship, and Fun - F ³	9 th - 12 th Grades

Led by Kelly Williamson and Weekly Volunteers - **Welcome Center Sign-In Requested**

Wednesday Ministries

Morning Adult Bible Study (11:00 a.m.) Led by: **Pastor Henry Stamper** Location: Room 101
Evening Adult Bible Study (6:30 p.m.) Led by: **Pastor Henry Stamper** Location: Fellowship Hall

From the Middle Office

Whew!

VBS is nearly finished as I write this, and planning for next year has already begun .Why now? It takes months of preparation, piles of cardboard, countless rolls of tape, and a team of faithful volunteers to make this week happen.

Why do we do it? Because one child is worth it. One soul hearing about Jesus makes every bit of effort meaningful. If even one heart is reached, then everything we've poured into VBS has been worth it.

As I begin clearing my desk, office, sanctuary, and fellowship hall of all the Junkyard scraps, I'm convinced some of this cardboard is multiplying somewhere in the building. But as I begin to sort through the chaos—wondering how many glue sticks we actually used—I pray we reached at least one child who needed to hear God's Word. I pray each person involved in VBS was blessed.

I want to sincerely thank all who donated their time, money, and prayers to make this year such a success. You helped build something beautiful... even if we're still finding stashes of cardboard in places it shouldn't be.

Have a wonderful August!

Kelly

From the first office on the left....

As the summer comes to an end, I feel sad but have to rejoice in the fun we've had and prepare our children for the new school year. My family loves to go back to school shopping and plan a super fun day to celebrate the end of summer!

Sending your children out into the world, whether for a few hours a day or for an entire college semester, requires an immense amount of trust. To the parents and guardians navigating schedules, homework, and the emotional ups and downs of a new year, we pray for your peace. May God calm any anxieties you have about your children's safety, friendships, or academic progress. Remember to extend grace to yourself on the chaotic mornings and busy evenings.

Praying for all the children and teachers to have the best 2026-2027 school year!

Your ministry assistant,

Laken



You are cordially invited to attend the wedding of Amy Cheyenne Jackson and Cameron Michael Meyer at First Baptist Church of Batesburg on November 14, 2026 at 3:30 p.m. No formal invitations being sent. Please RSVP to Amy Cheyenne Jackson 803-687-6434 by September 10, 2026. Please mark your calendars and reserve the date!



**There will be a
meeting Aug
10th at 6:00pm
for those
wishing to help
with Youth and
Children this
Year.**

Blessings from the OFFICE UPSTAIRS!!

First let me say a huge thank you to Kelly and her crew for the wonderful Vacation Bible School we had this past week!! You all did an amazing job and I so enjoyed leading the music; the kids thoroughly enjoyed singing and dancing and worshipping. As we look to a new month and school starting back with schedules resuming, I hope to see you all each Sunday and remember there is always a seat for you in our choir!!

Here's a little something I saw that was interesting and I wanted to share it with all of you:

Most of us learned the words before we could even read.

"Jesus loves me, this I know..."

It is one of the most familiar hymns in the world. Children sing it in Sunday School. Parents whisper it at bedtime. Churches have sung it for generations. but few people know the touching story behind how it began.

In 1860, author Anna Bartlett Warner wrote those simple words as part of her sister Susan Warner's novel *Say and Seal*. In the story, a Sunday school teacher gently sings the poem to comfort a seriously ill child, reminding him that even in suffering and uncertainty, the love of Jesus never changes. The poem was never intended to become famous. It was simply written to point one hurting child to the Savior. Two years later, composer William B. Bradbury recognized the beauty of Anna's words. He set them to music and added the now-famous chorus, creating the hymn that would soon be sung around the world. The Warner sisters' ministry did not end with their writing. For decades, Anna and Susan faithfully taught the Bible to cadets at West Point. Through quiet faithfulness, they invested in lives, proclaimed God's Word, and left a legacy that still echoes more than 160 years later. Perhaps that is why "Jesus Loves Me" has never lost its power. It is not merely a children's song. It is a declaration of the Gospel.

The message is simple enough for a child to understand, yet deep enough to sustain a believer through every season of life.

When life is joyful, Jesus loves me.

When life is painful, Jesus loves me.

When I feel strong, Jesus loves me.

When I feel weak, Jesus loves me.

The Apostle Paul captured this same truth when he wrote, "The Son of God loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

That love was not merely spoken. It was demonstrated at the cross. In a world searching for complicated answers, God often reminds us through the simplest truths. Jesus loves us. He proved it through His death and resurrection.

And that truth has comforted children, strengthened saints, and brought hope to countless hearts for generations.

Sometimes the greatest theology can be sung in the simplest words.

****Jesus loves me. This I know.****

I'm so thankful Jesus loves us!

See you at choir practice every Wednesday evening at 7:15 and

Children's choir practice at 5:00 on

Sundays !!!

Blessings and much love,

Beverly

Altar Flowers



In case you do not know, there is an active Flower Chart on the bulletin board which is located on the first-floor hallway next to the Welcome Center. You are encouraged to sign up on the Flower Chart to provide live arrangements to honor special family events such as birthdays, anniversaries and other occasions throughout the year. Once you sign up for a certain Sunday date, you will be responsible for contacting a florist, placing an order and paying the florist. The local florists will deliver the floral arrangement to the church prior to the dedicated Sunday date. Laken will contact you prior to this date on how you wish to have the acknowledgment placed in that Sunday's bulletin. You are encouraged to participate in the special recognition in honor of your loved ones. If you have any questions concerning any of this information, please contact Laken at 803-532-3896.

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
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FBCB Staff

Henry Stamper: Senior Pastor 803-687-0131, Stamperx4@aol.com

Beverly Taylor: Minister of Music and Worship 803-206-9084,
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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
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Office Hours

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

Phone: 803-532-3896

Website: www.fbcbatesburg.org

Wifi: godisgood

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NO ONE CAME

"Keep this book of the Law (the Bible) always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it." Joshua 1:8

Suppose you planned a party. You invited all your friends and neighbors to come and enjoy an afternoon of fun and food. On the week of the party, you began preparing for the festivities. You clean the house and the yard. You rent tables and chairs and a big portable awning so your guests will have shade. You clean the ice chest and the grill. You even go to the store to pick up plenty of food and supplies. On the day of the party, you get up early and begin preparing for your guests to arrive. You've got meat on the grill, made plenty of iced tea, and all the side dishes. You've worked hard and now everything is ready for your guests to arrive.

But then, your phone begins to ding with message after message of excuses why people won't be able to make the party. As the time for the party arrives only a select few attend. "No one came," you think to yourself as you think about all the time, preparation and cost that went into the party. How would you feel?

Each and every week we have numerous Bible study teachers who work diligently studying their lessons, going over class materials and visuals, to prepare themselves to teach effectively. Yet, there are many who simply choose to not attend a Bible study class. Think how disappointing and discouraging this can become for many of these faithful teachers. Jesus told a similar story of a man who prepared a great supper, yet when it came time for the feast, the guests began to make excuses as to why they could not attend. (Luke 14:16-24)

So the next time you think it's not important or that you won't be missed at the next Bible study class, think about the person who has spent considerable time preparing spiritual nourishment just for you! All are invited. We hope you'll come!

In Christ's Abundant Love,

Pastor Henry