

November Newsletter



First Baptist Church - Fairfield Glade

130 Town Centre Way

Crossville | TN | 38571

931-484-6927 ffgfbcc@onhisrock.org

www.onhisrock.org



11/2 Becca Putnam
11/4 Bryan Wright
11/11 Marcia Ardis
11/12 Calvin Pierce
11/15 Carol Bechtel
11/19 Anthony Alegria

11/22 Delmer Harville
11/24 Margaret Watson
11/26 Rory Iles
11/28 Joan Brining
11/29 Sharie Leonard
11/30 Fred Mack



11/1 Neal & Frances Putman
11/7 Rory & Sara Rosemary
11/8 Bob & Jean Cooley
11/12 Carl Bell & Sue Brasel

11/22 Wes & Joan Moss
11/24 Caleb & Marcey McCall
11/30 Richard & Judi DuBois

THE PASTOR'S TWO BITS

I don't know the origins of this, but after my last sermon series about 'the church', someone gave me an old article that they tucked away years ago.

10 RULES FOR IMPROVING THE CHURCH

1. Tell yourself over and over that since you are not perfect, you would not fit into a perfect congregation if one existed.
2. Instead of picking out 'the worldly member' to point to, pick out sincere, dedicated, spiritual members and thank God for them. You will find what you seek.
3. If you are old, treat the young with the consideration that you desired as a young person. If you are young, treat older adults with the respect you want when you mature.
4. When you are tempted to criticize others, be sure to pray earnestly for them first. This may not change them, but it will do wonders for your attitude.
5. When you see work neglected, instead of being critical, offer to help.
6. Never blame others for your failures. Everyone can be fruitful in spite of bad examples and discouraging attitudes of others, if they are determined to be.
7. Consciously look for the good qualities in every brother and sister in Christ. When you think of a brother or sister, make a mental note of the good points each possesses.
8. Remind yourself every day that the only way you can improve the world or the church is to begin with self.
9. Constantly strive to increase your circle of associates in the church. Try to do something good for each one.
10. Every church has problems. Constantly ask yourself, "Am I part of the problem or part of the solution?"

There's some real wisdom in there. During our recent revival services we were challenged to be part of the solution to making this church a beacon to our community. But we can't do it 'out there' if we don't get it right 'in here'. Did you know that one of the greatest criticisms from unchurched persons about the church is how church people treat people, both, inside and outside the church? They detect hypocrisy between our words and our actions.

FG FBC isn't perfect because none of us is perfect and since the church is the people and not the building, then the church isn't perfect. But we need to do everything we can to eliminate hypocrisy and the perception of hypocrisy from among us. Our attitudes toward one another should reflect the love of Christ in all situations. Ephesians 4:32

says, "*And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you.*"

I believe that our revival services went a long way to doing what they were intended to do – to reignite us to be the church that God wants us to be. Take another look at the 10 'Rules' above. Be honest with yourself and with God. What can you do to help improve the church?

-Pastor Doug

P.S. There are only two months left in the year. I encourage you to give toward the retirement of our Building Fund debt. We are ever so close to making our goal to

Be Debt Free In 2023!

Intercessors Prayer Group

You are invited to attend

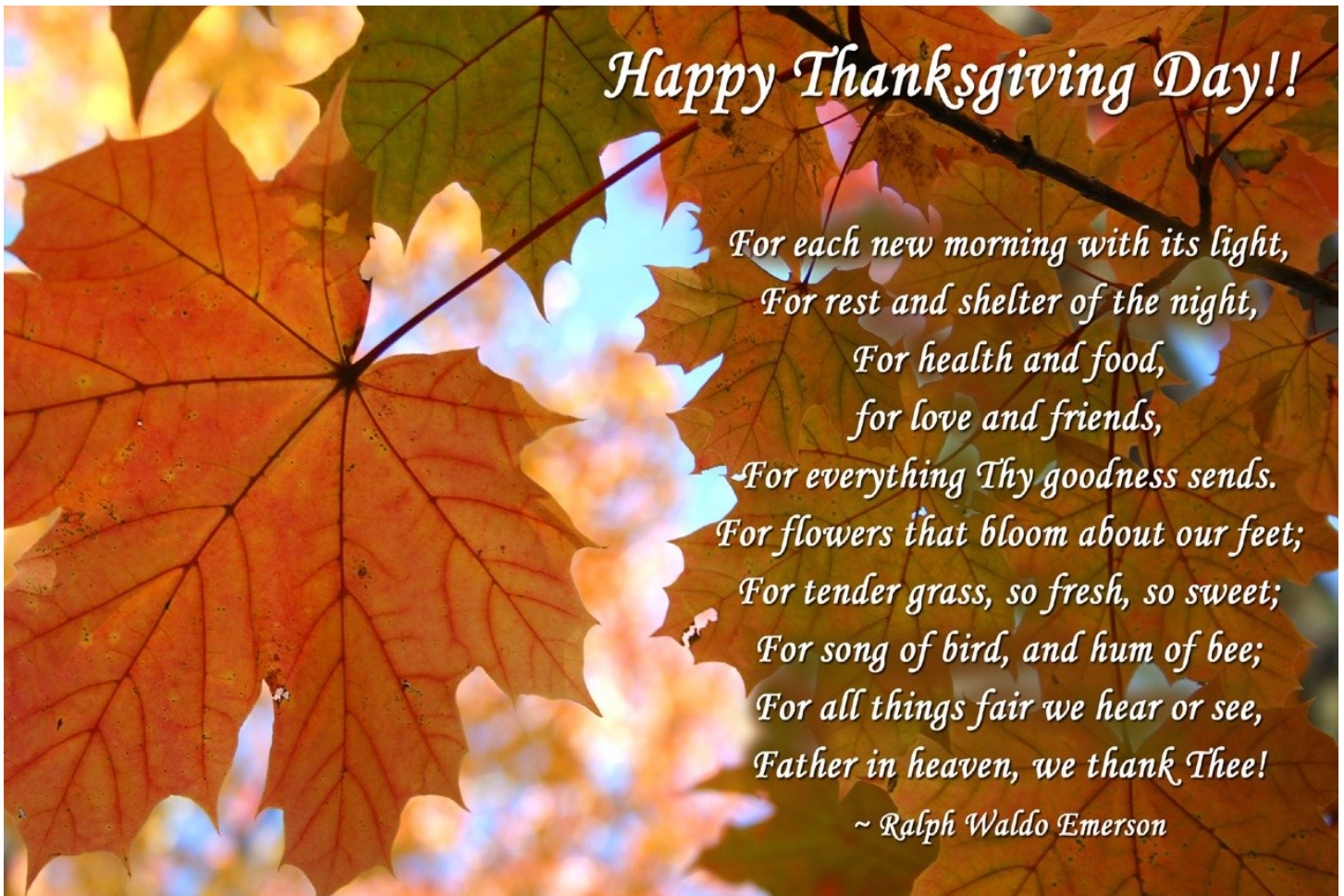
In Room 120

Wednesday's at 9:00am

Mrs. Janice Botbyl has answered the call to facilitate the

Intercessors Prayer Group

There is a Prayer Box available on the credenza at the main entrance of the church where you may place your prayer request.



Stewardship Moment – Let's Get 'er Done!

We currently have ≈ \$165,000 left on our mortgage with only 2 months to go. We really need prayer and church commitment if we want to get this loan paid off by the end of 2023.

I have started working on a tentative budget for next year and it really looks nice to not have a mortgage budget line item. Let's make it happen!

This is the time to talk with your financial consultant to see what you can do before the end of the year. It usually takes a couple of weeks or so to get things cleared and mailed to the church.

We hope to continue to see Qualified Charitable Contributions (QCD) coming in from various IRA's, as well as money left to the church from Wills. Remember, you can donate up to \$100,000 to a qualified charitable organization each year.

God is Great (and you all are wonderful)! Our Team is looking forward to celebrating with the church this accomplishment!

God Bless!

Stewardship/Finance Team



GOODIES !!!!!

**We're wanting to be more inviting to
our guests and visitors as well as our
members.**

The Goodie Ministry needs you !!!!

***Please sign up to bring Goodies on Sunday
mornings to share.***



We Need Your Help!!!

Our Nursery/Toddler ministry is in critical need of your help! Could you spare just 1 hour a month to serve in our Nursery/Toddler ministry? How about every other? If we are to be a growing church, we must be a serving church. We need caregivers during our Sunday 9:00AM

and 10:30AM Worship hours. We will fit your volunteering to your schedule! Who can say "NO" to these little ones? This is a plea to both men and women (couples also welcome). Please say "YES"! Contact Cass Lowery (edandcasslowery@gmail.com or 609-364-8016) or the church office to get more information or to volunteer! Just 1 hour every other



Pastor Elliot's Tidbits

How One is Saved

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 [KJV]

Biblical salvation is one of the most beautiful pictures of the Heavenly Father's enormous love for humankind. Man chose to rebel against God and put his relationship with the Almighty in jeopardy. The result of this rebellion was that sin entered God's perfect world. The God-head, in eternity past, put a plan of redemption together, waiting to reveal it. In Jesus Christ, God's plan of salvation was manifested for all the ages to recognize. Finally, humankind could enjoy the relationship that Jehovah had intended.

God's grace is the primary force that makes salvation possible. God pours out His infinite supply of grace because Jesus fulfilled His mission on earth. Jesus Christ lived a perfect life, and died a perfect death, all the while being totally surrendered to His Father. It was by God's grace that Jesus should taste death for every man (Heb. 2:9). God did not pour out His grace with any regard to humankind. All have sinned and fall short of God's holy requirements (Rom. 3:10-11, 23). Mankind rebels against God, curses God, denies and neglects God. As such, mankind does not possess the strength to meet God's requirements for dwelling with the Holy God (Rom. 5:6). In fact, all of humankind - all of us, are (or have been) an enemy of God (Rom. 5:10).

Though God's grace is the primary force of salvation, faith needs to be present for the gift of grace to be transferred to the recipient. God's grace has appeared to all men (Titus 2:11), but not all men are partakers of God's generous benevolence. "For whosoever believeth...", "For whosoever shall call...", and "...shalt confess with thy mouth... and shalt believe in thine heart..." are just a few phrases in God's Word that indicate man's response to God's gift. God exposes His gift of grace. A person, in turn, rejects it or receives it. This process does not happen any other way. The belief a person must have, and that God accepts, is the belief in His Son. That Jesus is exactly Who He says He is and that God has raised Him from the dead. The apostle Paul writes, "And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain." (1 Cor. 15:14); and "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept." (1 Cor. 15:20), and "...even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1 Cor. 15:22). When a person honors God's Son by believing in Him, God takes the death of Jesus Christ and applies it to that person. It is that person's faith that causes God to look upon them as having been in Christ when He died. It is that person's faith that causes God to credit them with salvation.

So, what can a person do to 'help' God's save them? The short answer is 'NOTHING'! Man is powerless to invoke God's grace. God's grace is not merited or earned. There is nothing a person can do that would cause God to owe them anything. Because man's sin strikes at the very heart of God's love, we must humbly throw ourselves at the feet of God's mercy, in repentance, to invoke His grace. He does this through faith.

Let's celebrate this Thanksgiving season with hearts overflowing with thankfulness -Pastor Elliot

Commit your works to the LORD, And your plans will be established. Proverbs 16:3

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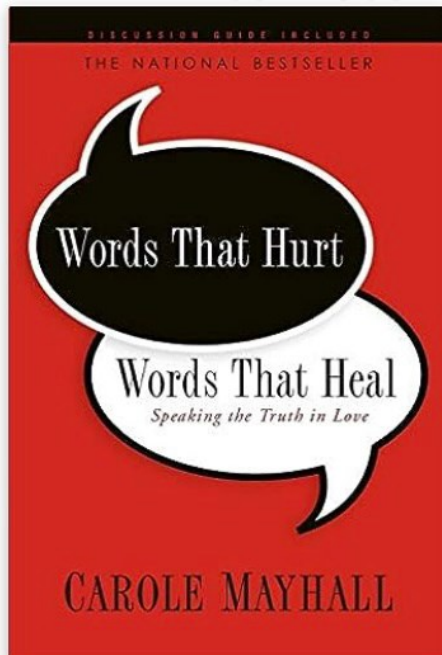
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Ladies,

We invite you to join us for a ladies Bible study, fellowship, and prayer group on **Fridays** at **10:00-11:30am**, meeting in the church fellowship hall.

We will walk through the book **Words that Hurt, Words that Heal: Speaking the Truth in Love**. This book contains numerous scriptures and words of encouragement for our daily lives.

This will be a 10-week study, beginning September 15.

Books are available at the class, cost \$10. For those who requested a study on the Holy Spirit, we will begin the preparation for that study, seeking materials and a teacher.

Blessings and Love in Christ,
Marcia Ardis (931-260-9903)

CHURCH-WIDE



DINNER



**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 18**

3:00 p.m.

Are You Ready for Fun Times in 2024 with Your Church Family???

Your Adult Leadership Team has been hard at work selecting some fun activities for you, our church family in 2024.

Here's what's planned for 2024:

Hymn Sing (for non-Snowbirds) – January 26, 6-7:30, cookies and coffee following

Tea for Sure in '24 - Saturday, March 9 (date change). Music by Dany Funderburk.

Lavender Farm & Sgt York's Homestead – end of June to mid-July

Minor League Baseball – during the summer months – either Tennessee Smokies or Chattanooga Lookouts

Biblical Time Dinner Theater – in the Fall in Pigeon Forge

And now some photos from, 2023:





Piece Corp - Quilters
Tuesday's @ 9:00am



***Soothing
Souls***

***Every 4th Tuesday
@ 1:00 pm***

First Baptist Church - Golf League



11/22/23 @ Druid Hills - Back 9

Tee Times - 1:00pm & 1:09 pm

11/9/23 @ Dorchester - Front 9

Tee Times - 1:00 pm & 11:09 pm

11/16/23 @ Heatherhurst Crag - Back 9

Tee Times - 1:00 pm & 1:09 pm

11/30/23 @ Druid Hills- Back 9

Tee Times - 1:00 pm & 1:09 pm





Christmas Open House

Saturday, December 2nd, 4-6 pm

FG First Baptist Church

(behind Food City) 130 Towne Centre Drive

**FOOD
DOOR
PRIZES**

CAROLERS

**ALL WELCOME!
BRING YOUR
CHILDREN & GRAND-
CHILDREN**

RSVP 931.210.4339





Upcoming Events

November - Monday's - Men's Bible Study @ 9:00am

November - Tuesday's - Women's Bible Study @ 1:00pm

November - Friday's - Women's Bible Study @ 10:00am

November 3 - Red Cross Blood Drive - 9:00am-3:00pm

November 9 - Memory Loss Support Group @ 11:00am

November 20 - CLC Meeting @ 3:30pm

November - Wednesday's - Intercessor's Prayer - 9:00am

November 18 - Church Thanksgiving - 3:00pm-5:00pm

November 19 - Ronnie & Kim Booth Concert @ 4:00pm

November 28 - Soothing Souls @ 1:00 pm
