

CALENDER OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 16, 2025

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship/Pastor Johnathan

Tuesday, February 18

6:00 pm Bible Study/Pastor Johnathan

First Quarter Study: Hebrews "Christianity 101"

Chapel Class

Wednesday, February 19

11:15 am Christian Education Committee

12 Noon Bible Study/Pastor Johnathan

Chapel Class

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

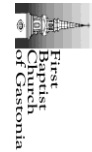
Sunday, February 23

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship/Pastor Dwayne

Worship Greeters: February

Mary and Kara Hope



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The Builder

Volume XIV Number 2

Week of February 16, 2025

The Godhead Series Part One Review

It's hard to believe that January has already come and gone. We completed part one of our series on The Godhead where we focused on God the Father. We celebrated God the Father as, Omnipotent Creator, Sovereign God, and The Eternal One. The goal was to gain a better understanding of how key aspects of the nature of God the Father transform the life of the Christian. Here's what we covered.

Omnipotent Creator (Jan. 5th) - in this capacity we experience God as a divine creative force who, having all power, deals almost exclusively in newness. God creates solutions to the problems experienced by his children. Even in reconciliation and restoration God employs newness as the primary mechanism for change. God's ability to customize solutions to meet the specific needs of his people is unmatched, and as such, further reinforces the truth that God is God. (Genesis 1, Isaiah 43, Revelation 21)

Sovereign God (Jan. 12) - in this capacity we experience God as not only having all power, but also exercising the right to use that power however he chooses. While there are many instances where God's sovereignty isn't readily understood or accepted, what we much more often see is a benevolent Father who uses his power and sovereignty to extended grace and mercy to humanity. (Job 38-42, Ephesians 2)

The Eternal One (Jan. 19) - here we experience a timeless Father. God, as The Eternal One, sits outside of time, and in this capacity is best suited to aid the Christian in times of need because his existence precedes and transcends the need. God's omniscience paired with timelessness and omnipotence, equip him to meet any need. The Christian can find peace and rest in a Father who is loving and unchanging. (Exodus 3, Deuteronomy 33)

Join us on Sundays this month for Part II "The Son" as we look into the nature of Jesus and how he is the Christian's best friend.

Pastor Johnathan

Website: www.fbcgastonia.org

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Worship Greeters February

Mary and Kara Hope



February 13 – 28

- 15 – Jim Blalock
- 19 – Steve Medlin
- 21 – Chris Magnum
Cy Rowe
- 22- Cary Craig
- 25 – Grace Wynkoop
- 26 – Wally Black
Pat Rowe
- 27 – Evan Null
- 28 – Lane Cann

SYMPATHY

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Dibbie Biggerstaff upon her death on Friday, January 31, 2025

and to

Edgar Gonzalez Perez, upon the death of his 14 year old brother, Roberto Ortez

March Birthdays

- 1 – 12
- 3 – Janette Craig
- 4 – Irene Jarvis
- 8 – Dock Coleman
Wilda Denton

MEMORIALS

In Memory of: Dibbie Biggerstaff

Given by: Jeff & Kelly Burrell,
Ann Siva, The Stegall Family

In Memory of: Margaret Boorech

Mother of Dan Wynkoop

Given by: Martha Spurrier

In Memory of: Roberto Ortez

Brother of Edgar Perez

Given by: Ann Siva

In Memory of: Liz Talluri

Given by: Dock Coleman, Jim & Ann Costner, Jeannie Davis, Mary Jo Griffin, Tim Griffin, Martha Spurrier

IN LOVING MEMORY

DIBBIE BIGGERSTAFF

JANUARY 31, 2025

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A place to belong, a place to become, a place to bear witness

Mission Update-February

Kim Wheeler from Crisis Assistance Ministries spoke on January 26th at our worship service. Crisis Assistance Ministries, otherwise known as CAM, is the focus of the Missions offerings for the first quarter of 2025.

Kim told us that they are the only assistance in Gastonia that helps financially with rent and utilities. Last year CAM helped about 800 families stay in their homes by covering rent and utilities, they also helped homeless people get into housing by helping with their 1st month's rent and/or utility deposit. In total they helped those families with over \$200,000.

Cam is supported by 43 congregations. The Missions committee asks you to please consider donating to CAM with an offering separate from your tithe/gift offering to the church. Please give these offerings marked CAM in a separate envelope during worship, give them to Alice or mail them to the office marked CAM. As of January 27th we've collected \$350.

NEW COMMUNITY MISSION PROJECT

The week in March when we "Spring Forward" and lose an hour of sleep is rough. As a service to the community the Missions Committee will have a "Drive-Through Coffee" at the front of the church on Monday, March 10th from 6:30 am to 8 am. If you'd like to help serve coffee that morning, please let Evelyn Leggette, Anne Costner, John Price, or Charlotte Eddings know. We'd love for you to participate.

Thank you.

Missions Committee

Evelyn Legette, Ann Costner, John Price, Charlotte Eddings

Church Council

Monday, February 17 @ 7:00 pm
In the church parlor

FINANCE MEETING

Monday, February 24 @ 6:00 pm

DEACON'S MEETING

Monday, February 24 @ 7:00 pm

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

WILL MEET THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH @11:15 AM IN THE PARLOR

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MEETS THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 11:15 am in Johnathan's Office

March 19-next meeting

JOY CLUB

TUESDAY, March 4 @ 11:00 AM IN THE

FELLOWSHIP HALL

CALL MARTHA SPURRIER FOR

A LUNCH RESERVATION

Back Pack Ministry

The Back Pack Ministry now serves 8 families which consist of 34 people

Fourth @ First 2025

Join us every fourth Sunday in 2025 at 11AM for a special series led by Pastor Dwayne called, "The Words and Life of Christ." In it, he will explore the key moments in the life of Jesus through our Lord's own words. We can't wait to see you here!

February 23: Temple Cleansing

March: Deacon Sunday

April 27: Triumphal Entry

May: Last Supper

June 22: Rev. Brandon McKoy



Forty Days of Fruit: Praying for the Fruit of the Spirit

This year February 14th not only marks Valentine's Day, but it's also the start of another 40 days of prayer. On January 5th we began 40 days of prayer for more of the Fruit of the Spirit, love. Now we will add to that 40 days of prayer for more of God's joy. There is great strength to be found in God's joy (Nehemiah 8:10), and a joyful Christian, and a joyful church are powerful beyond measure. Join us in praying for more of God's love and joy as we move deeper into the new year. Let us be steadfast in our prayers for ourselves and each other. (1 Thessalonians 5:17, James 5:16)

Pastor Johnathan

Working Together Works: FBCG Church Council

Some of you have heard that we now have a Church Council, but you may not know what it is or why it's needed. The Church Council is a monthly meeting of the committee chairs where the programs and plans of the church are discussed. The goal is to collaborate and support one another through inter-committee partnerships. Working together, we identify and collaborate to meet the needs and the mission of our church. With our 150th anniversary just a year away one of the major projects of the Church Council will be working together to mobilize our congregation to make the celebration a memorable one. There will be a lot of moving pieces needed, and a healthy inter-committee dynamic will be a must. Please know that we welcome your prayers and your feedback. The Church Council meets the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Feel free to stop by and see what it's all about. God bless you!

Pastor Johnathan

Rev. Dwayne Burks, Operations Pastor

Sometimes a reintroduction is in order. This month we celebrate Rev. Dwayne Burks. Pastor Burks served as our interim Senior Pastor from 2023-2024. With our move to a new specialized ministry model Pastor Burks now brings his years of nonprofit management experience to the new role of Operations Pastor. In this role, Pastor Burks focuses on improving the operations and infrastructure of the church while also focusing on partnerships and community engagement. Much of this is second nature for Pastor Burks. Be sure to ask him about his new book that speaks to his years of non-profit experience. He'll be happy to tell you all about it. Be on the lookout for more "Meet First Baptist" features in your Builder and on our social media. God bless you!

The Builder will be published monthly (second week of month).

Any articles you want included must be into church office by the Friday before.

Thanks.