

Nathan continued from cover... stories about life on the urban East Atlanta farm – colorful tales of sharing space with homeless people, chickens, sheep, and goats. Also while in seminary, he worked with the refugee community in Clarkston, Georgia. Through the local church he helped new residents understand their mail, and that “Americans don’t – or shouldn’t - eat ham-burgers at every meal,” among other daily tasks. These experiences shaped Nathan’s view of the Gospel. “I think that is what God has called us to do, find people in the neighborhoods where they are and love them to Christ,” he said. Nathan is currently doing his doctoral research at Mercer University in becoming a disciple – making God’s love guide our lives.

Going to seminary cost Nathan his long-time girlfriend who “didn’t want to be married to a pastor.” But while working on staff as an interim youth and college minister at FBC Gainesville, the church secretary set him up on a blind date with a pretty, young teacher. Nathan had a plan. First, they would meet for coffee at Inman Perk in downtown Gainesville; if it went well, he would ask her to walk down the street to a restaurant for dinner. Hours later Nathan and Kristen were still at the restaurant.

The couple continued to date even while Nathan moved to South Georgia to lead FBC Claxton in 2017. Kristen continued teaching kindergarten at Enota Elementary in Gainesville. She joined him in 2018 after they married. Nathan says Kristen’s role in his ministry is very important. “Kristen helps me be more loving and grace-filled,” said Nathan. “She has one of the biggest hearts I’ve ever seen.”

Nathan, now 33, has a big heart for people too: “My wife says I could talk to a tree.” Church members, local leaders, homeless, and outcasts all have Nathan’s cell number. He said: “I let them know I am somebody here to help them.”

Nathan and Kristen look forward to beginning their ministry together at FBC Cornelia. One of Nathan’s goals - post-COVID - is getting people back to church. “People forget that they are loved. When I do home visits, you find out pretty quick people are hungry for love. My goal has been, that they are reminded they are loved by the church and the church is actively loving them.”

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Cornelia, GA

FBC Youth

SUNDAYS 10 AM
WEDNESDAYS 5:30 PM

Please be in prayer for our Youth Ministry as we seek God's direction for our future; and pray for Dustin and Chelsea Biggers and their family as they move into new ministry opportunities. We appreciate Dustin's faithful service during this time of transition over the last two years. Members of the Youth Committee will be filling in to lead our youth on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour and on Wednesday nights for Youth Group. We are prayerfully considering next steps as we search for the right person to lead our middle and high school students.

CALLING ALL
2022 GRADUATES!

Please send your graduation
information from
high school or college to
fbccorneliapub@gmail.com
by April 20

FBC Youth Committee
Carrie Trotter, Chair
Heather Carter
Becky Hughes
Andrea Irvin
fbccorneliayouth@gmail.com

Reminder:

There will be no Sunday
School for children and youth on
Easter Sunday. Nursery will be provided
for children from birth to age three. All
others are invited to worship with their
families by using the Easter activity bags,
available at all sanctuary entrances. All
youth may help with the floral cross on the
front lawn or serve as ushers beginning at
10:30 AM.

Mary Turner, church pianist, was honored for 15 years of service to FBC during worship March 6. Thank you Mary!

Please assist the Decorations Committee by bringing fresh flowers and yard clippings to the cross on the front lawn Easter morning.

Dear Deacons & Church Family,
I appreciate the honor of being elected Deacon Emeritus.
It has been my honor and pleasure to have served as an active Deacon for over 40 years.
As we begin a new chapter in our church history, let us all continue to support each other and our new pastor.
Sincerely, Richard McMullan

Wild Kingdom Children

CREATING WILD FAITH IN
THE HEARTS OF KINGDOM KIDS

In April we celebrate our amazing Savior, Jesus, for his death and resurrection. As we celebrate Easter, I am amazed he would go through such suffering for sinners like me. Jesus proved his love and grace for us through his sacrifice. I pray that everyone would look at the love and grace Jesus has for us, and choose him as Lord and Savior. Jesus gave the ultimate sacrifice for us; he has given us a beautiful hope for our present life and eternity.

Wild Kingdom Children will be celebrating the resurrection of Jesus all throughout the month of April through our Bible stories, crafts, and activities.

Along with the celebration of Easter, our children will begin new themes this month. The 252 Club (1-5 graders) will focus on “Hope” - how believing something good can come out of something bad. The Bible verse for 252 Club is John 16:33, “In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world!” This verse is so true, and will remind the children that there will be trouble, but if they choose Jesus they will have hope because he has already won the battle.

Ollie’s Crew (3 years - Kindergarten) has the monthly theme - “We go together.” Their memory verse is Matthew 28:20 “I am always with you.” This is to teach them that Jesus wants to be in relationship with everyone.

Blessings,
Jameson Deering
770-851-0962
fbccorneliachildren@gmail.com

First Baptist Church Cornelia

First Sunday
April 3

Breakfast: 9:45 AM - Everyone Invited
Sunday School: 10:15 AM
Sunday Worship: 11:00 AM

Join us for the
EASTER EGG HUNT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6
6:00 PM

BEGINNING DOWNSTAIRS
IN THE CHILDREN'S AREA

NOT
AN
ARTIST?

NO
PROBLEM.

No experience
necessary to
join us for the

LADIES LAUGH &
LEARN LUNCHEON

Sunday, May 1
12:15 - 2:00 PM
Fellowship Hall

By pouring acrylic on canvas, we will make our own art, led by
Gail Denny. Lunch provided by Women's Enrichment Ministry.
Sign up on the sheet in the hallway. Register by April 25;
\$5 donation for supplies.
Call Kathy Crowe if you have questions. 706-499-4913.

PrimeTimers
presents

a Joyous
Spring

featuring
Vocalist Katie Grady

Friday, April 8, Noon
FBC Fellowship Hall

To attend the lunch & program,
sign up on the sheet in the main hallway
or call David Turner, 706-754-1876.
Cost is \$10, payable at the door.

Join us for

Lifeway women

LIVE

August 26–27, 2022

Atlanta, GA | Hebron Baptist Church

Featuring Jen Wilkin, Jackie Hill Perry, Kelly Minter,
Jennifer Rothschild, Kristi McLelland, Jada Edwards,
Ellie Holcomb & More

Don't miss this exciting women's event in NE Georgia this summer! We must have a group of five commit before April 15 to take advantage of the discounted ticket rate of \$79. Tentative plans are to carpool on Saturday, 8/27. A box lunch is available for an additional \$15. Please contact Kathy Crowe, 706-499-4913. You may also visit lifeway.com/lifewaywomenlive for more information.

First Baptist Church Family,
Thank you for all the wonderful cards, texts, love and prayers over the past months of my hospital stay and recovery. I miss being with all of you!
Love in Christ,
Brenda Blackburn

MINISTRY BUDGET FINANCIAL STATEMENT

February, 2022			
Receipts:.....	\$36,130.00	YTD:.....	\$73,679.88
Expenses:.....	\$43,158.27	YTD:.....	\$77,772.51
Net:.....	(\$7,028.27)	YTD:.....	(\$4,092.63)
Average SS Attendance: 75 Average Worship Attendance: 98			

UNIFIED MISSION OFFERING FUND

February, 2022			
Beginning Balance: .	\$20,955.77	YTD:.....	\$19,531.57
Receipts:.....	\$16,204.55	YTD:.....	\$20,523.66
Investments:.....	(\$7,052.40)	YTD:.....	(\$9,947.11)
Ending Balance:	\$30,107.92	YTD:.....	\$30,107.92

Special Gifts: February, 2022

Memorials: Unified Missions & Budget - Mildred Hardy

Honoraria: Budget - Pastor Search Committee

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

1st Sunday

9:45 AM - First Sunday Breakfast, Banquet Room; Everyone Invited
10:00 AM - Sunday School - all ages
11:00 AM - First Sunday Family Worship

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Stew & Que
8:00 AM - Tuesday Crew
9:30 AM - Quilting Ministry

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

NO MORNING BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

5:30 PM - Fellowship Meal, reservations required

5:30 PM - Youth Ministry

6:00 PM - EASTER EGG HUNT

6:30 PM - Choir Rehearsal



FRIDAY, APRIL 8

NOON - PRIMETIMERS, Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

PALM SUNDAY

10:00 AM - Sunday School - all ages

11:00 AM - Worship

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Stew & Que

8:00 AM - Tuesday Crew

9:30 AM - Quilting Ministry

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

6:30 PM - Choir Rehearsal

SPRING BREAK - NO OTHER ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

7:00 PM - MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

WITH LORD'S SUPPER OBSERVANCE

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

8:30 AM - Northeast Georgia

Brotherhood of Veterans &

Patriots Meeting, Fellowship Hall



Dear Church Family!

We thank you for all the calls, cards and prayers during the last month. We are grateful for this family of faith that walks along side us, to encourage us in times of uncertain health concerns. I am doing much better and have enjoyed being back at church!

We love you all!

Dustin Thomas and family

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17

10:00 AM - Sunday School, adults only
No Sunday School for Children & Youth
Nursery available

11:00 AM - Worship

NATHAN LASHOTO PREACHING



MONDAY, APRIL 18

3:00 PM - Book Club, Playground Classroom

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Stew & Que

8:00 AM - Tuesday Crew

9:30 AM - Quilting Ministry

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

NO MORNING BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

5:30 PM - Fellowship Meal, reservations required

5:30 PM - Youth Ministry

6:00 PM - Wild Kingdom Children

6:30 PM - Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

10:00 AM - Sunday School

11:00 AM - Worship

12:15 PM - DEACON'S MEETING, FELLOWSHIP HALL

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Stew & Que

8:00 AM - Tuesday Crew

9:30 AM - Quilting Ministry

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

10:00 AM - Bible Study, Fellowship Hall

5:30 PM - Fellowship Meal, reservations required

5:30 PM - Youth Ministry

6:00 PM - Wild Kingdom Children

6:30 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Dear Church Family,

I want you all to know how much your loving thoughts, calls, texts, emails, visits, gifts of food and flowers have meant to me and Mitchell during these past few weeks. I certainly never expected to be 'out of commission' from back surgery as I have been blessed all my life with energy and good health, so it was a new and humbling experience. I have read your sweet cards over and over - the many scriptures of encouragement have been so heartfelt. You have been the hands and feet of Jesus for us - we are forever grateful.

Love & Prayers,
Donna C. Trotter

April Service Reminder

3rd

PATROL

Wade Hasty

Ushers

Phil McClain

Dennis Tedder

Ed Vaughn Patsy

Vaughn

10th

PATROL

Ed Vaughn

Ushers

Grant Bentley

Bill Chandler

Myra Chandler

Steve Doran

Larry Whitfield

17th

PATROL

Donald Crowe

Ushers

Donald Crowe

Kathy Crowe

Jack Irvin

FBC Youth

24th

PATROL

Mitchell Trotter

Ushers

Al Carter

Jason Hughes

Richard McMullan

Mark Reed

DEACON OF THE WEEK

SALLY HIGGINS - APRIL 3

JIMMY STAPLETON - APRIL 10

DENNIS TEDDER - APRIL 17

ED VAUGHN - APRIL 24



To make meal reservations, call the church office, 706-778-4412 or visit www.fbccornelia.org by Noon Monday. Cancellations are also due Monday by Noon - email - corneliafbc@gmail.com

Prices Adults - \$7; Children (3-12) - \$5 Catering by the Food Factory

First Baptist Church.
Cornelia, Georgia
P.O. Box 96
325 Oak Street
Cornelia, GA 30531

<<Name>>
<<address 1>>
<<address2>>
<<city>>, <<state>> <<zip>>

Non-Profit
Organization
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cornelia, GA

MINISTRY STAFF

Jimmy Lewis

Interim Pastor

Randy LeBlanc

Minister of Worship & Music

Interim Administrator

Jameson Deering

Interim Children's Minister

Mary Turner, Pianist

Ministry Assistants

Sheila Thomason, Finance

Carol Hasty, Church Secretary

Becky Hughes, Communications

Facilities Manager

Wade Hasty

Office (706) 778-4412

PO Box 96 / 325 Oak St., Cornelia, Georgia 30531

corneliafbc@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/First.Baptist.Church.Cornelia

www.fbccornelia.org

Good Tidings

OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CORNELIA

325 Oak Street, (706) 778-4412

Newsletter Volume 41, #4 April 2022

FBC Calls the Rev. Nathan LaShoto as Senior Pastor



Nathan LaShoto, photo left, is pictured in the pulpit on Call Sunday, Feb. 27, at FBC. Below right: Kristen and Nathan LaShoto.



Photos by
Randy LeBlanc

In a unanimous yes vote, First Baptist Church Cornelia called the Rev. Nathan LaShoto as senior pastor on February 27. Nathan's first Sunday in the pulpit as FBC's new pastor will be Easter Sunday, April 17.

Nathan LaShoto (pronounced la-show-toe) says much of his world view was shaped by growing up in White County attending a Southern Baptist Church and spending summers at Woodlands Christian Camp in Cleveland, where he would wash dishes, set up games and "work behind the scenes."

That idyllic world view was rocked when he left home at 18 to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, seeking the opportunity to travel the world and make good money. He turned 19 on a ramshackle container ship loaded with grain and weaponry bound for the Philippines. The ship was filled with rough guys who didn't get along, who were "obsessed" with red-light districts in exotic ports of call.

Nathan says he thought, "There is

no light in this at all." He admits, "I had a crisis of faith." He spent a lot of off-duty time in his room and talked frequently to his mentor Will Dyer, now the senior pastor of FBC Augusta, Georgia. Dyer told him, "You know

God gave you a church to handle the darkness of the world. You don't have to handle it alone."

Nathan left the academy and thought about the ministry. "I don't have to have an exciting life. I just want to love on people." He transferred to the University of North

Georgia with the intention of being a high school physics teacher. "One day it hit me like a ton of bricks that I could go to seminary."

After graduating from UNG in 2011 Nathan went to work for American Sites, a company that builds cell phone towers, while continuing to pray through the seminary idea. In 2013, he enrolled at Emory University's Candler School of Theology and worked on a nearby Mennonite farm, which provided income and lodging for the young seminarian. He has interesting

Please Nathan on page 2...