



Good Tidings



A G A P E

Loving the world as God loves us.

325 South Oak Street, Cornelia, GA / (706) 778-4412

Newsletter Volume 36, #5 May 1, 2017

Walking with Jesus with Pastor Eric Spivey



Each day as I walk down our main hallway with renovations happening around us, I see change happening at First Baptist Cornelia. These physical changes remind me of the anxiety transition stirs in my life. If I am feeling the stirring of transition anxiety, I assume some of us are feeling it too.

This month, I've gone back to read an important book I've kept beside me through most of my years in ministry. It's called Managing Transitions: Making the most of Change. Here's how the book starts. It helps me name what I am feeling.

"Change is not the same as transition. Change is situational: the new job, the new house, the new team roles, [the new facility renovation]. Transition is the psychological process people go through to come to terms with the new situation. Change is external, transition is internal."

As I read this, I am reminded of the Israelites as they left Egypt and spent 40 years in the wilderness before entering the Promised Land. This change was for their best, but the transition was difficult. French Poet Paul Valery says, "Every beginning is a consequence. Every beginning ends something."

I wrote last month that we are entering a new and bright season of ministry at First Baptist Cornelia. This is true. I am also aware that as this new season of ministry emerges, we might also experience a bit of grief – even your pastor– over what once was. All of this change is good. What is good and right, though, is not always easy.

Because of difficulty of transitioning, we are working as a staff keep you informed of everything happening in and around the church. Here are some updates about the renovations.

Continued on page 5

Congratulations to our High School Graduates!



Foster Barrett

Parents:
Ken and Jennifer Barrett



Torie Crawford

Parents:
William Crawford
Samantha Crawford



Murphy Doran

Parents:
Terry & Libby Jones



Brittney Jones

Parents:
Sam & Cindy Jones



Jill Swindler

Parents:
John & Jennie Swindler



Jacob Trotter

Parents:
Brad & Carrie Trotter

Graduate Recognition Service May 21

MAY 21st
MOVE UP
SUNDAY
ALL STUDENTS GRADUATE TO NEW CLASSES!

May 21 is a special Sunday for our children and youth! All children will attend Sunday school in their new classes and rising 6th graders will have a special service at 9:45. We invite all parents to join us in honoring these leaders in the children's ministry as they transition to the youth group! During the 10:55 worship service we will have a special time of recognition for our Graduates and rising 6th graders. This is a special Sunday that you don't want to miss!



MOSAIC Arts Camp 2017

Registration has begun.

This unique arts intensive summer camp gives rising 1st thru 7th grade students an opportunity to learn about and explore their interests in the visual and performing arts. The registration fee of \$25 covers costs of art materials and supplies used during MOSAIC. Dates of MOSAIC Arts Camp are June 19-23. The deadline for registration is June 9.

You can register in 2 different ways. Go to www.fbccornelia.org and click on MOSAIC Arts to register and pay online or download the attached registration form and mail or bring to the FBC church office with your payment.

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

Space is limited so please register now to ensure your spot in MOSAIC Arts Camp! For questions call 706-778-4412 or email: mosaicartcamp@fbccornelia.org.

Advancing
God's Kingdom

FBC

Men's Ministry

MAY 7TH at 8:00 AM

COME JOIN US in Fellowship Hall for a hearty breakfast, followed by a message from Benji Harrison, Head Football Coach at HCHS. **All men of the church are invited.**

MISSION TRIP MATAGALPA NICARAGUA JUNE 3 - 10

Please help with some items we are needing:

- Cloth diapers and pins
- New or very very clean baseball caps
- Wash cloths
- Nail polish
- Costume jewelry for the ladies

There is a collection box in the copy room next to the office.

THE TEAM MEMBERS THIS YEAR ARE:

Rhett Weaver	Macey Griffin	Todd Weaver
Tammy Weaver	Josie Ryder	Anna Davis
Katie Weaver	Sydney Spivey	Dierdra Lanier
Caleb Souther	Carol Walls	Pug Schwertner
Jimbo Stapleton	Carl Walls	Darrell Schwertner

ROUND TABLE, MAY 22

Monday, May 22, 2017

Fellowship & Card Signing: 11:00 a.m.

Lunch: 11:20 a.m.

"WHERE THE RABBITS DANCE"

This historical novel gives insight into the life and culture of the Cherokee Indians who lived in the "Enchanted Land" North Georgia. Actual people at the time – a U.S. President, a Supreme Court judge, Christian missionaries, are part of the story leading up to the Trail of Tears.

Author: Lynelle Sweat Mason

Presented by: Helen Bryson

Missions Recognition Service

Wednesday, May 24th, 6:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Help us celebrate the end of another great year of Missions and MOSAIC for our preschool and elementary children. Let's cheer on our boys and girls for their great learning this year.

You are invited to attend
North Georgia Technical College
Adult Education

English as a Second Language Award and Citizenship Achievement Ceremony

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

6:00 – 7:00 pm.

Sanctuary

First Baptist Church of Cornelia

Reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall

Please RSVP by Thursday, May 11

706-490-3077

A G A P E DISCIPLESHIP: GROWING DISCIPLES

A WORD from Pastor John:

This month we will all remember our mother's on Mother's Day May 14. I was blessed with a Godly mother who I wish all of you could have known. Oh, how I miss her! For some, Mother's Day (and many holidays) can be difficult. I came across this article recently by Holley Gerth and she gives us a great reminder: "God sees each one of us. He knows how many hairs are on our heads and how many cares are in our hearts. Whatever you're going through this Mother's Day, you're not facing it alone. As King David, a man who experienced many losses in his life, expressed in Psalm 34:18 NIV, "The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." May God surround you with love, fill you with hope, and give you strength for each moment— especially this Mother's Day."

Moms and Dads, remember that YOU are the primary disciplinarian in your home. Attending Bible study and worship will help you grow in your faith so that you can share what God is teaching you with those who will carry on your legacy. We have some great growth opportunities for people of all ages here at First Baptist, but I want to especially encourage our young families to be here with us on Sunday mornings. Our BERE class has a great new space to meet in on the first floor just down the hall from the church office. Special thanks to all who helped create this beautiful space to come and learn from God's word and to fellowship together! Whatever your age, let May be the month that you get plugged in to a Bible study group here at FBC!

DEACON MINISTRY

During most months of the year, our deacons gather for their ministry meetings on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am. These meetings are designed to give space for our deacons to work together in ministry for the church. The deacon pairs spend time praying for our families and talking through places for ministry. We also have deacon work teams who are praying and working on different needs in the church. This year, our teams are working on improving our deacon election process, our outreach ministry, and our men's and women's ministry.



A FBC FAMILY EXPERIENCE

...WHERE FAMILIES WORSHIP TOGETHER

Wednesday Nights at 6pm in the Banquet Room

This is an opportunity for parents to get a taste of what their kids experience every Sunday! After FX, children will have a special large group time together while parents and youth have a time of contemporary worship and Bible study led by Andy Miller.

Please join us in the Banquet Room at 6pm.

Monthly PRAYER FOR MISSIONS

In February, we asked First Baptist Cornelia to pray for a miracle related to the family of CBF missionary Janee Angel. Here's what we wrote then:

"Pray especially in the month of February for the protection and release of Janée and Hary's 4 nephews and nieces stuck in the Civil War of Syria. The mother of these three children immigrated to Sweden first. The father died the first of January before he could get the children out of Syria. Now the children (17 years old down to 7) are alone in Syria with few options for reunification with their mother. Join us as we pray for a miracle."

This month, we want to share with you that miracles do happen – even in war torn countries like Syria. Here's what Janee wrote this week on her blog:

"The children...Ornila, Salem, Fadi and Jini are now safely in Lebanon.

Luma, their mom, flew in [to Lebanon] from Sweden to get them safely across the border [from Syria]. Once again, we thought it would be an easy task. However, the documents weren't right and they had to go back into Syria. Then they needed to carry across \$1000 per person into Lebanon as proof that they would not try and take advantage of the Lebanese government. So we had to Western Union money quickly and suffered the loss of euros being changed into Syrian pounds and changed into US dollars.

Then finally, we heard from our friend and colleague in Lebanon that they arrived. We talked to them on the phone, heard their voices. Ornila was so happy to be back in church in Lebanon!"

The family will fly to Sweden very soon.

We talk and pray a lot for missionaries around the world each month at FBC. It's wonderful when we see God do miracles right before our eyes. Continue to pray for this family as they now make the difficult transition from life in a civil war to their lives as refugees.

BENEVOLENCE FUND: MARCH ,2017

Shared:.....\$ 842.40

Clients: 16



Determination
is a response of the
character of God.

Throughout Scripture, we can discover that God has been faithful to His people. He rescued them from slavery in Egypt. He sent Jesus to rescue us from our sin. He remained faithful to the early church as they spread the message of Jesus throughout the world. When we see how God gave His people what they needed to continue following Him, we can respond with determination believing that God will give us what we need to finish what we start.

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us have determination.

When Jesus gave His disciples the incredible mission of spreading the message of the Gospel throughout the world, He didn't make them do it alone. Instead, He sent the Holy Spirit to empower them to show faith and determination in the face of whatever might happen along the way. When we put our faith in Jesus, the Holy Spirit empowers us to finish what we start.

We think it's important for us to help our kids and families discover more about determination—deciding it's worth it to finish what you started.

Our Memory Verse for May comes from Galatians 6:9.

In Galatians 6:9, we read, "Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up" (NIRV). When Paul wrote this verse to the church at Philippi, he encouraged the followers of Jesus to show determination and keep doing good. We may not see results right away, but in time, God will help us see that finishing what we started was worth all of the effort.

Let's see how determination shows up in the early church and the first followers of Jesus as they worked to accomplish the mission He had for them.

Upcoming Events

May 7: Family Worship

May 14: Mother's Day

May 21: Move Up Sunday

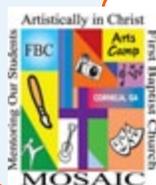
All children will move up to their new classes for the 2017 – 2018 school year.

June 9: PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Contact Amber for more details

June 19 – 23: MOSAIC 10th Anniversary!

July 9 – 14: VBS & Camp Agape



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS THIS MONTH

Join us on May 3, May 10 and May 17 for a **Family Worship Experience** at 6:00 pm in the Banquet Room, and at 6:30 pm we will go up to THE WELL (3rd floor) for our Bible Study and small group time. On May 24 we will participate with our children for our annual end of the year missions celebration starting at 6:00 pm. **NO ACTIVITIES ON WEDNESDAY MAY 31.**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, MAY 17 – MOVE-UP SUNDAY PREVIEW NIGHT!

This will be the final night of our FX (Family Experience). All parents, students, and children will visit their NEW classes in preparation for Move Up Sunday on May 21! Rising 6th graders will go to the 3rd floor and tour THE WELL with their parents, and younger children and parents will check out their new class in Wild Kingdom Children's Ministry. These tours will take place around 7:15 pm at the end of our FX (Family Experience) on Wednesday May 17.



SUNDAY MORNINGS

Join us for Bible study every Sunday morning at 9:45 am in THE WELL (3rd floor Family Ministry Center). *Special thanks to Mary Turner and Robert Gotsch for teaching our young people so faithfully week after week.*

SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY is coming May 21!

Parents of seniors, you are invited to a breakfast before the worship starting at 9:30 am in THE WELL. All of our youth are invited to attend this breakfast and special time of sharing on this Sunday morning. We will recognize high school seniors in the worship service and seniors need to wear their cap and gowns. We will also mention college and graduate school graduates in this service as well. **PARENTS PLEASE GET US THE INFORMATION FOR YOUR GRADUATES NO LATER THAN FRIDAY MAY 12.**

SUMMER DATES TO REMEMBER:

SUMMERSALT YOUTH CAMP – June 12-16—We still have a few spaces left. Contact Pastor John for more information.

MOSAIC ARTS CAMP – JUNE 19-23

CAMP AGAPE & VBS – JULY 9-14



MUSIC AND ARTS IN WORSHIP

There are many creative ways to worship our Creator. We most often think of worship through singing, reading scripture, and praying but our church is gifted to worship through the arts. Last month, our children beautifully led worship through drama and song with the musical, In the Big Inning. Our decorating committee helped us worship through the Lenten season with an expressive display in our baptistry, palm branches on Palm Sunday, and the gorgeous flowers inside the church and the Living Cross covered with flowers in front of the church. Last year, we highlighted the artistic gifts of many of our church members through a display of their art in the sanctuary. Just as music leads us to worship, many people worship through creating and sharing their artistic gifts. I can't help but think about how Jack Boozer worshiped as he wrote poetry and painted, all of which was done through the inspiration of His Creator. We were blessed to have Jack share his artistic gifts of worship with us and we will miss him.

We have a wonderful opportunity to teach our children about creative worship through MOSAIC Arts Camp. This amazing Christ-centered arts camp helps children learn and understand how we can worship through our artistic gifts and talents. Whether it be through visual or performing arts, all of us can worship God through the use of creative talents. This unique arts camp was the brainstorm of David Turner and a few other church members who collaborated to make this a reality. We are celebrating the 10th Anniversary of MOSAIC Arts Camp this summer. It takes many willing volunteers to teach and supervise children during this week. Please make yourself available to assist with MOSAIC Arts Camp if you can volunteer. We have talented instructors lined up to teach but we need many adults and youth to supervise and assist with the campers. Contact me, Amber Miller, or Donna Trotter if you can volunteer to help with MOSAIC Arts Camp.

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men" (Colossians 3:23). Let's always remember who has given us our creativity and who we use it to worship.

Blessings,
Bobby



- 9:45: Family Breakfast sponsored by the FBC Men's Ministry (Families with children and youth)
10:15 Small group sharing and Bible Study for Adults
Bible study for children led by our Youth & Youth Volunteers
10:55 Corporate Worship with the FBC Family

DURING FAMILY WORSHIP

- Children and youth worship with their families
- Children's Sermon with Pastor Eric
- Children and youth lead in worship

Continued from page 1

Small Group Room

Room 217, our new Small Group Room, was completed for Easter and used for an Easter Fellowship for our Berea Class. With its handmade table (thanks Dale Blair), living room feel, and internet enabled TV, this room will provide space for a variety of bible studies and small group meetings. It will be used on Sundays for our Berea and College and Career classes.

Quilting Room

Our Faith Sewers Quilting Ministry has now moved downstairs to Room 219. This room with its tables of sewing machines will be used on Wednesday nights as well throughout the week as our quilters come to work.

History Prayer Room

The renovation of Room 206 is moving along nicely. New drywall is being installed both in the room and in the nook outside to better hold our historical displays. The sink has been removed so that a fireplace can be installed. When this room is complete, it will not only house historical displays, it will be used as a prayer room and will house a conference table for meetings.

Welcome Room

The Renovation of Room 221 is just starting. Painting in the room has begun and we have removed the old sink. This room will have information about church and is positioned well between the sanctuary and Sunday School classes to be used on Sundays for fellowship opportunities.

Media Center

The multi-purpose media center will be the last room renovated this summer. At the moment it is housing many items from the other rooms as they are being renovated. When renovation work starts, the room will have new flooring, new paint, and new sitting areas. There will still be periodicals to pick up and read, as well some reference and Christian fiction books to check out.

I'll see you Sunday,
Pastor Eric Spivey

TUESDAY, MAY 2

7:00AM Men's Prayer Breakfast /Stew & Que
 • Tuesday Crew

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

5:15PM Fellowship Meal
 Reservations Required
 6:00PM (FX) Family Experience
 Preschool/Children's Ministries
 Youth Bible Study
 Adult Prayer Meeting/FH
 6:15PM Adult Recharge Classes
 7:00PM Adult Choir Practice


SUNDAY, MAY 7

8:00AM Men's Ministry
 9:45AM Sunday School
 10:55AM Worship

TUESDAY, MAY 9

7:00AM Men's Prayer Breakfast /Stew & Que
 • Tuesday Crew
 7:00PM Book Club/BR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

5:15PM Fellowship Meal
 Reservations Required
 6:00PM (FX) Family Experience
 Preschool/Children's Ministries
 Youth Bible Study
 Adult Prayer Meeting/FH
 6:15PM Adult Recharge Classes
 7:00PM Adult Choir Practice

SUNDAY, MAY 14

8:30am Deacon Meeting
 9:45AM Adult Sunday School
 10:55AM Worship

MONDAY, MAY 15

11:00AM Benfield Group

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

7:00AM Men's Prayer Breakfast /Stew & Que
 • Tuesday Crew

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

5:15PM Fellowship Meal
 Reservations Required
 6:00PM (FX) Family Experience
 Preschool/Children's Ministries
 Youth Bible Study
 Adult Prayer Meeting/FH
 6:15PM Adult Recharge Classes
 7:00PM Adult Choir Practice

SUNDAY, MAY 21
Graduate Recognition & Move-Up Sunday

9:45AM Adult Sunday School
 10:55AM Worship

MONDAY, MAY 22

11:00AM Round Table

TUESDAY, MAY 23

7:00AM Men's Prayer Breakfast /Stew & Que
 • Tuesday Crew

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

5:15PM Fellowship Meal
 Reservations Required
 6:00PM Preschool/Children's Ministries
Mission Recognition Celebration
 Youth Bible Study
 Adult Prayer Meeting/FH
 6:15PM Adult Recharge Classes
 7:00PM Adult Choir Practice

SUNDAY, MAY 28

9:45AM Sunday School
 10:55AM Worship
Dollywood Trip

MONDAY, MAY 29

MEMORIAL DAY

TUESDAY, MAY 30

7:00AM Men's Prayer Breakfast /Stew & Que
 • Tuesday Crew

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

6:00PM Quarterly Church Conference
 7:00PM Adult Choir Practice

**QUARTERLY CHURCH
 CONFERENCE**
 6:00 pm May 31st

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
 FELLOWSHIP MEAL**

MAKE RESERVATIONS or
 CANCELLATIONS at:

www.fbccornelia.org

(click the link about halfway
 down the home page)

May 3

Pork Loin
 Broccoli

Mashed Potatoes
 Rolls, Dessert

May 10

Poppyseed
 Chicken
 green beans
 Rice, salad
 Rolls, Dessert

May 17

Spaghetti
 Salad

Garlic Bread
 Dessert

Tea
**MAY 24
 SURPRISE**
SERVICE REMINDERS
MAY 7
Ushers:

Phil McClain,
 Rick Barron,
 Wade Hasty,
 Nolan Nix,
 Dalton Sirmans,
 Bill Tanneberger,
 Dennis Tedder,
 Robert Tyler,
 Ed Vaughn

Patrol:

Mark Reed

Wed. Lockup/MAY:

Phil McClain

MAY 14
Ushers:

Richard Whatley,
 Grant Bentley,
 Bill Chandler,
 Steve Doran,
 Brian Peek,
 Chester Skelton,
 Larry Whitfield

Patrol:

Phil McClain

Wed. Lockup/MAY:

Phil McClain

MAY 21
Ushers:

Jarvis McFarlin,
 Herman Benfield,
 Donald Crowe,
 Wes Dodd,
 Murphy Doran,
 Terry Doran,
 David Elder,
 Jack Irvin,
 Jared McFarlin

Patrol:

Chester Skelton

Wed. Lockup/MAY:

Phil McClain

MAY 28
Ushers:

David Foster,
 Jason Hughes,
 Jack McMullan,
 Richard McMullan,
 Mark Reed,
 Caleb Souther,
 James A. Stapleton III

Patrol:

Ronnie Parham

Wed. Lockup/MAY:

Phil McClain

DEACON OF THE WEEK
MAY 7

Lynna Gotsch
 (706) 778-4404

MAY 14

Jane Ferguson
 (706) 778-5496

MAY 21

Phil McClain
 (706) 778-7853

MAY 28

Jack McMullan
 (706) 0754-4042

FAMILY MEMORIAL DAY TRIP TO

Dollywood

MAY 28-29TH, 2017

Join your FBC friends (and bring others) on Pastor Eric's annual pilgrimage back to Dollywood. We have a great time playing together. Leave Sunday, May 28th after worship. Cost: Still to be determined.

To sign up and/or find out about costs – email Pastor Eric at espivey@fbccornelia.org.

The 66th Annual National Observance
May 4, 2017
 at Habersham EMC

National Day of Prayer

FOR YOUR GREAT NAME'S SAKE!

HEAR US... FORGIVE US... HEAL US!

O LORD, LISTEN! O LORD, FORGIVE! O LORD, HEAR AND ACT!
 FOR YOUR SAKE, O MY GOD... DANIEL 9:19

Speaker: Dr. Emir Caner,
 President Truett-McConnell University

It's A Girl!

Michael and Brandi Worsham
 announce the birth of
Brinley Avalin Worsham
 on March 29,
 weighing 7 lbs. 10 oz.
 and 20 in. long.

She is joined by big sister Alivia,
 proud grandparents
 Deborah & Wayne Worsham
 and great grandparents
 Hoyt & Helen Bryson.

Dr. & Mrs. Rhett Weaver
 request the honor of your presence at the marriage
 of their daughter

Katherine Marie
 to
John-Henry Lee Dean

On Saturday, the Seventeenth of June
 Two Thousand Seventeen
 At Five O'clock in the Evening

First Baptist Church Cornelia
 325 Oak Street
 Cornelia, Ga

Reception to Follow

Please RSVP by May 27, 2017
 to Tammy Weaver (706) 499-4146 or tammyweaver28@gmail.com

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, thoughts and prayers when we were dealing with Bill's heart problems and other health issues. He is now doing a lot better.

Thanks also for remembering us when we recently lost two family members. We are so blessed to be a part of such a caring church family.

With Love, Bill & Claire

Dear Church Family,

My brother and I have been deeply touched by the outpouring of compassion shown him and my sister-in-law during her illness and death, and to me. Thanks you for all your prayers, calls and many cards. You are a loving family, and we are blessed by your comforting words and acts.

Jane Ferguson

1st Sunday
Family
Worship

MAY 7

Family Worship Sunday

Sermon: Family at their Best

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:7

Worship Elements:

- Praise Team and Sanctuary Choir Special
- Children's Sermon

MAY 14

Mother's Day

Title: What It Takes to Be a Mother

Scripture: Hebrews 11:23

Worship Elements:

- Recognition of Women and Mothers

MAY 21

Graduate Recognition/Move up Sunday

Title: Between Memory and Imagination

Scripture: Deuteronomy 5:15

- Special Recognitions for graduates and rising 6th graders.

MAY 28

Title: Caring for God's Family

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

- Memorial Day Recognition
- Deacon Faith Story
- Communion

MINISTRY STAFF

Dr. Eric T. Spivey, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. John Swindler,

Assoc. Pastor, Discipleship & Student Ministries

Bobby Ivey, *Minister of Worship & Music*

Mrs. Amber Miller,

Minister of Children and Community Outreach

Jarvis McFarlin, *Business Manager*

Bobbie Foster, *Organist*

Mary Turner, *Pianist*

Ministry Assistants

Sheila Thomason, *Finance*

Bernice Widding, *Publications*

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Cornelia, GA 30531

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