

A Season to Celebrate!

Holy Week and Easter services at First Baptist Church were amazing times of worship! I have to give a special thank you to everyone who showed up to serve. Our worship would not be the same without your commitment. Our Living Cross was decorated and added to by countless members of our church, then presented beautifully for our Benediction.

The homemade bread we ate with our Maundy Thursday communion provided another layer to our worship. Volunteers read the story of Jesus' final week to children and adults as we walked the Stations of the Cross on Wednesday before Easter. Teams showed up hours before Easter worship to ready the baptismal for a student that wanted to identify with Christ through baptism. We enjoyed beautiful music by our choir and musicians. The staff at First Baptist put countless hours into ensuring that the Jesus story was communicated clearly. All of this effort was put forth to celebrate the greatest day in history, Resurrection Sunday!

If you have been keeping the Church at an arm's length, I would like to encourage you to plug in and explore where you can serve God and His Church.

"Everybody can be great.. because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
We have some pretty great people at First Baptist. Sincerely, thank you for helping me worship God better.

Your friend and Pastor,
Nathan

Photo top right: **Hannah Conklin** reads to the crowd of Christ's crucifixion at Station 7, Stations of the Cross, March 27. Middle left: **Steve Doran** and **Jane Ferguson** tell the story of Simon the Cyrene helping Jesus bear his cross at Station 3. After Stations, our children enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt. Photo middle right: **Emma Souther** and **Willow Williams** examine their eggs.

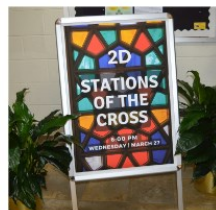


Photo above left: **Graham Cole** is baptized Easter Sunday by **Pastor Nathan LaShoto**. Right: The Living Cross is a symbol to our church and community of Christ's death and resurrection. Thank you to **Janis and Jimmy Stapleton** and the **Cross Crew** for this beautiful display. Thank you to all those brought flowers and spring foliage!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Candice, Todd, Graham and Miles Cole, 395 Sweet Spring Br., Clarkesville, GA 30523

Jonah Free, 150 Guston Street, Alto, GA 30510

Becky Ray, 223 Cherry Street, Cornelia, GA 30531

Correction:

Please note, new member **Ruth Kramedian's** name was misspelled in last month's issue.

APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER

TUESDAYS | APRIL 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

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

8:00 AM - Tuesday Crew, retired gentlemen enjoying coffee & cake, and doing tasks around FBC. Join the crew!


9:30 AM - Quilting Ministry 

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3


10:00 AM - Coffee & Bible Study, Fellowship Hall

Spring Break - No Other Scheduled Activities

FRIDAY | APRIL 5

12 Noon - PrimeTimers Luncheon, Fellowship Hall 

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

9:45 AM - First Sunday Breakfast, Banquet Room 

10:00 AM - Sunday School

11:00 AM - Worship

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 17, 24

10:00 AM - Coffee & Bible Study, Fellowship Hall

5:15 PM - Fellowship Dinner, reservations required. Make reservations at fbccornelia.org by Monday at Noon, or bring a brown bag supper.

5:45 PM - 2D Fusion, Fellowship Hall. Join us for a time of worship and a devotional message from Pastor Nathan!

6:15 - 7:15 PM - Children & Youth Activities

6:30 PM - Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

10:00 AM - Sunday School

11:00 AM - Worship

12:15 PM - Ladies Luncheon, Fellowship Hall 

12:15 PM - Deacons' Meeting, Friendship Class

MONDAY, APRIL 15 | BOOK CLUB | 3:00 PM | LOCATION TBD 

SUNDAYS, APRIL 21 & 28

Regular schedule of Sunday School & Worship

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24 | PARENTS & YOUNG ADULTS SMALL GROUP

6:00 - 7:00 PM | BEREA CLASSROOM

APRIL SERVICE REMINDER

APRIL 7

Deacon of the Week
Leigh Thomas

Patrol
Wade Hasty

Ushers
Bobby Ferguson
Phil McClain
Dennis Tedder
Ed Vaughn
Patsy Vaughn

APRIL 14

Deacon of the Week
Rhett Weaver

Patrol
Ed Vaughn

Ushers
Grant Bentley
Bill Chandler
Myra Chandler
Steve Doran
Larry Whitfield

APRIL 21

Deacon of the Week
Al Carter

Patrol
Donald Crowe

Ushers
Doug Burrell
Donald Crowe
Kathy Crowe
Jack Irvin

APRIL 28

Deacon of the Week
Shirley Dillard

Patrol
Mitchell Trotter

Ushers
Al Carter
John Edmonds
Jason Hughes
Mark Reed



Dear Church Family,
I want to thank you for the recognition on March 17. It was indeed a special day for me. Your kindness in words, deeds and gifts will long be remembered. My time of service with you was always a source of joy and personal fulfillment for me.

This past year has been challenging for David and me. Your cards, prayers, food, calls and concern have sustained us. There will always be a special place in my heart for each of you.

Love,
Mary Turner

David and Mary Turner are pictured above on Sunday, March 17, when Mary was recognized for being FBC's pianist for 17 years. A cancer battle led her to step away from the pianist position officially in January. James Barnard has been filling in as FBC's interim pianist. On Sunday, April 21, Amy Higgins Hulseley joins the Music Ministry as our new pianist. Amy is the daughter of Don and Sally Higgins. She grew up at FBC and returns "home" after having served FBC Gainesville as pianist for 27 years. In her "day job" she is the Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Marketing at North Georgia Technical College. Amy and her husband Keith live in Clarkesville and have two adult children, Haley, a graduate student at Mercer University, Atlanta, and Hayden, a freshman at UGA.



Amy Higgins Hulseley



NEXT MEETING:
8:30 AM
SATURDAY | APRIL 20
FBC FELLOWSHIP HALL

Tony Santarsiero, a retired USAF Medical Service Corp member, will be the guest speaker. Breakfast provided compliments of Tom & Donna Lord, in honor of Tom's brother Jim, a navy veteran. All are welcome to attend!

MINISTRY BUDGET FINANCIAL STATEMENT | FEBRUARY '24

Receipts:	\$36,880.00	YTD:	\$73,796.00
Expenses:	\$48,688.44	YTD:	\$104,375.20
Net:	\$ -11,808.44	YTD:	-30,579.20

Average Sunday School Attendance: 65

Average Worship Attendance: 114

UNIFIED MISSION FUND | FEBRUARY 2024

Beginning Balance:	\$14,614.84	YTD:	\$13,278.50
Receipts:	\$2,683.34	YTD:	\$5,956.68
Investments:	\$ -2,077.00	YTD:	\$ -4,014.00

Ending Balance: \$15,221.18

SPECIAL GIFTS -

Honoraria : Budget: Sandy & Shannon Whaples