



THE BEACON

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Our deepest Sympathy for:

Sam Stephens and family in the loss of his brother, Fox Stephens of Georgia.

Betty Jo Thompson and family in the loss of her husband, Swain Thompson.

Dear FBC,

Thank you for the delicious meal that you provided for our family after Buddy's funeral. It is very comforting to receive such support during a difficult time.

Bless you all,
Vickie Cothran and Family

First Baptist Church Contact Information

307 S. Manning Street, Anderson, SC 29624

CHURCH OFFICE — 224-1622

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 - 4:00; Fri. 9:00 - 3:00

Dr. James R. Thomason, Pastor

Dr. Josh Hunt.....Associate Pastor

Rev. Amy Brown.....Minister of Students

Mr. Addrian Wilson.....Minister of Music

Mr. Jamie Smith.....Assistant Music Director

Mrs. Ramona Hallman.....Organist

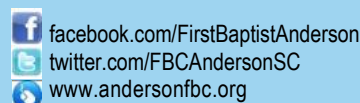
Mrs. Kelly Smith.....Pianist

FBC Child Development Center.....224-2635

Mrs. Shannon Griffin.....CDC Director

MINISTER ON CALL: (After hours & Weekends)

Call: 224-1622, Press 6, leave name, number and a brief message and the MINISTER ON CALL will return your call promptly.



Opportunities at First Baptist

Sunday, August 13

- 8:15 AM Baraca Sunday School Class (record broadcast)
- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:00 AM Baraca Service 107.7 WHQA-FM; 1280 WANS-AM
- 10:30 AM Bible Study
- 6:00 PM Youth Summer Sunday Party - Last party of the Summer—Self's home.

Tuesday, August 15

Terrific Tuesday - End of Summer Party (contact Amy for more details)

Wednesday, August 16

- 12:00 PM Bible Study / Luncheon
- 5:00 PM GA's Summer Meeting
- 3:33 PM Youth Summer Bible Study
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, August 20

- 8:15 AM Baraca Sunday School Class (record broadcast)
- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:00 AM Baraca Service 107.7 WHQA-FM; 1280 WANS-AM
- 10:30 AM Bible Study
- 11:30 AM Deacons' Meeting

Monday, August 21

- 6:00 PM Stewardship Meeting

Wednesday, August 23

- 12:00 PM Bible Study/Luncheon
- 5:00 PM GA's Summer Meeting
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 24

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First Baptist Church

307 South Manning Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29624 864.224.1622 / www.andersonfbc.org

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AUGUST 20

11:30 AM

Deacons' Meeting

AUGUST 22

1st Day of School

SEPTEMBER 5

7:07 AM

Youth Breakfast Club

Chick-fil-a on Hwy. 81

FBC'S 196th ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, August 27th



Also on the 27th:

BAPTISM

THE LORD'S SUPPER

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION

CONFERENCE / LUNCHEON

Groundbreaking at Our Playground ???

Menu: Oven Fried Chicken, Potato Salad, Green Bean Salad, Cantaloupe, Rolls, Tea, Birthday Cake and Ice Cream

There's no cost to have lunch as we celebrate our church's anniversary, but reservations are required. To make a reservation please call the church office, 224-1622

From one Minister to Another...

There's a new phenomenon at the Hunt house. During a visit with his grandparents over the summer, Jude discovered "America's Got Talent," a TV show about talent acts (magicians doing card tricks, singers, animal acts) that are hoping to use the show's popularity to catapult them to stardom. Sacha told me that Jude was fascinated with the show when he was at her parents' house, so as our summer winds down, we've spent a bit of time on rainy evenings popping popcorn and watching parts of the show together at our house. On one episode we watched recently, a trio of singers in their mid-70s mused about how all their work was leading to this one moment as they made their appearance, that all their hope to ever make it big hinged on what happened in their performance that evening and how the show's judges—and eventually America—felt about their singing. They performed beautifully, but I was struck by the amount of pressure under which they were singing: a live audience; judges; millions of families coerced by their six-year-olds into watching on TV across America. That one statement reverberated in my mind: everything has been leading to this.

It caused me to wonder where our lives are leading and what we're doing to prepare for the place where we're being led. There was a time in my life when I would've said that all the life and work of the Christian is leading to heaven. Of course I still believe that heaven awaits those who call on Christ, but I've becoming increasingly convinced that the work Christ does in our lives is suiting us for something other than walking through pearly gates and being in God's presence for eternity. The Holy Spirit is preparing us for something more difficult and more important. I believe that the work of the Holy Spirit is equipping us to make the Kingdom of God more prevalent in this world. We'll be with God eternally eventually, but in the meantime our work is to "know Christ and make Him known" here.

If you buy my conclusion that God is suiting us for Christ's work here on earth during our lives, the question then becomes one of preparation. I believe that one of the tasks of the church is to be one of the instruments the Holy Spirit uses to prepare you for Christ's work in the world. To be well-prepared for the moment everything is leading to, the Christian must consume a well-balanced diet of personal discipline, Bible study, fellowship, service, and worship. If you're faithful in worship, but you're not involved in the fellowship and study that a Sunday School class offers, you're not as prepared for work in the world as you could otherwise be. If you're faithful in attending a Sunday School class, but you're not involved in worship, your preparation is incomplete. Don't hear this as a guilt-inducing lecture on the importance of attendance, but rather as a plea on behalf of a world that desperately needs us to be sharp, ready, willing, and prepared to do Christ's loving, gracious, and redemptive work among them. It's all been leading to this moment.

What will be your "everything has been leading to this" moment this week? A personal challenge you weren't expecting? Demands you're not prepared to meet? A person who needs you? An opportunity to tell your story about what God is doing in your life? I hope God continues to trust us with these moments—these holy opportunities to serve Him—and I hope we will be found faithful when those opportunities arise. We usually don't have much say in how those moments arise, but we can be conscientious about how we prepare for them. I hope you're doing the important and rewarding work of preparing yourself for those moments, and I hope you're making the most of the investment that caring individuals like Sunday School teachers and others are making week in and week out as part of First Baptist's ministry to you.

May God bless your preparation.

Peace of Christ,
Josh

Our Members in Action

August 13

Worship Childcare:

Alicia Neal Darby and Leigh Maxwell

Deacons of the Week:

Al Whitney, Offertory Prayer
Brian Eicke, Visitor Outreach

Security:

Steve Thrasher and Glenn Bolt

August 20

Worship Childcare:

Anne and Haley Newton, Robin Gardner

Deacons of the Week:

Becky Campbell, Offertory Prayer
Rusty Smith, Visitor Outreach

Security:

Chad Walker and John Nichols

August Collection Committee

Larry Mitchell, Mathias Richardson,
Steve Madden, Alicia Neal Darby,
Charlie Ballentine, Tom Allen

Wednesday Lunch & Supper

August 16

Hamburger Casserole, Tossed Salad,
Green Beans, Cantaloupe,
Dessert, Tea/Coffee

August 23

Chicken Casserole, Broccoli,
Creamed Corn, Fruit Salad,
Dessert, Tea/Coffee

(Suppers will resume September 6, 2017)

Lunch Reservations

**Please contact the church office by
Noon on Tuesdays to make or
cancel your reservations.**



Patriarch Sermon Series Continues:

August 20

Isaac I - Finding God's Will: Genesis 24:1-14

August 27

Isaac II - Following God's Way: Genesis 26:19-25

September 10

Jacob I - Being Blessed: Genesis 27

September 17

Jacob II - Being Fearful: Genesis 28

September 24

Jacob III - Being Deceived: Genesis 29

October 1

Jacob IV - Being Faithful: Genesis 32

REGULAR WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

Resumes September 6th

- 12:00pm — Bible Study/Luncheon
- 5:00pm — Supper - Fellowship Hall
- 5:30pm — MS & HS Discipleship
M & M Check-In - 3rd floor
- 5:45pm — Children's Music & Missions
- 6:00pm — Praise Team Rehearsal
Conversation Café Room 212
- 6:15pm — Adult Bible Study - Chapel
- 7:00pm — Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
GA & RA Check-Out - 3rd floor

HEY KIDS!
Coming Soon



**Kick Off
Wednesday
August 30th**

5:30—7:00pm

Playground &

Inflatables Open

5:30—7:00pm

**Registration for Music,
Missions & Discipleship
in the breezeway outside the**

Fellowship Hall

5:30—6:30pm

**Hot Dog Supper in the
Fellowship Hall (no charge)**