

the BEACON

USPS 548-820

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

404 Love Avenue

Tifton, GA 31794

(229) 382-6063

FAX (229) 387-0523

VOLUME 65, NO.8: SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

UNMISTAKABLE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

I recognize that there are rare moments in life when expectations, faith, and outcome align so clearly that God's providence becomes unmistakable. For me, and I believe for many of you, our sanctuary rededication and relaunch has been one of those moments. On September 7, we successfully rededicated our sanctuary, and the launch unfolded beautifully. I am deeply grateful to our sanctuary renovation team, led by Charlie Taylor and Chris Grajko, as well as to Ryan Adams and our media department, for their tireless work to make everything excellent for our first official service on September 14. Seeing the joy, anticipation, and unity flowing through every encounter that day overwhelmed me. The worship, the hospitality, and the gospel proclaimed in that space reminded me that when we work together, embrace discomfort for the sake of the mission, and lean into selfless worship and service as the body of Christ, God does great things. When the dedication ended, I slipped to the back row, loosened my tie, and tears filled my eyes. I was genuinely astonished. I remember thinking, *I can't believe the Lord has given me the gift of serving this church and being your pastor.* I am humbled by your willingness to take chances, try new things, and forge new paths in uncharted territory so that we might reach our city with the hope of the gospel. This Beacon is simply to say thank you. I have received countless emails, calls, and texts celebrating returning to the sanctuary and the renewed hope for multiplying disciples.

So, thank you for trusting my leadership and speaking words of life along the journey. Thank you for choosing unity when doubt could have crept in, for honoring our staff with your service and commitment, and most of all, for honoring God with your desire to Love God, Love People, and Multiply Disciples.

In his service,



TJ MAULDIN
Lead Pastor



WATCH SUNDAY SERVICES LIVE AT [YOUTUBE.COM/FBCTIFTON](https://www.youtube.com/fbctifton)



MICHELLE HAMMOND
Accounts Payable
and CR Staff Liaison

RECOVERYFEST APPRECIATION

The 5th Annual RecoveryFest was an empowering experience for all who attended, drawing an estimated crowd of over 750 people to celebrate recovery, community, and resilience. Held in the heart of Fulwood Park, the event radiated hope and encouragement from start to finish.

More than 25 resource tables, representing regional organizations, lined the venue. These groups came together to share vital services, information, and support for individuals and families navigating the journey of recovery. The atmosphere was one of unity and empowerment, with attendees connecting, learning, and lifting each other up. Thanks to the generous support of Celebrate Recovery Tifton, Sysco Foods, and PB & Jesus, over 600 lunches were served throughout the day.

A special addition this year was our Testimony Magazine, whose presence helped amplify the voices and stories of recovery. We pray that the real-life journeys in this publication continue to inspire and uplift those walking the path of healing. If you would like a copy of the Recovery Testimony Magazine, we have some available in the front office.

We sincerely thank everyone who attended, volunteered, and prayed for the event. Tifton RecoveryFest continues to grow each year, and this year's gathering proved that the spirit of recovery is alive and thriving in South Georgia.

Thank you, FBC Tifton, for your unwavering support.

Michelle



MARK MYERS
Minister of Recreation
and Senior Adults

SUWANNEE RIVER RETREAT | OCTOBER 21-24

Join Mark and Michelle for a peaceful and inspiring getaway at the Suwannee River Retreat Center. This retreat is designed to help you embrace **Living Life to the Fullest**—by **encouraging joy, experiencing adventure, and engaging in purpose** at every stage of life.

Who: All senior adults (55+) seeking fun, fellowship, and a touch of adventure!

Where: Advent Christian Village, Dowling Park, Florida

When: Tuesday, October 21–Friday, October 24

Why: To challenge YOU to be YOUR best—at every stage of life

Cost:

- \$125 per person (double occupancy)
 - \$200 per person (single occupancy)
- Most meals included*

Activities:

- Teaching & Devotions
- Guided Kayak & Canoe Trip
- Prayer Walks & Nature Trails
- Campfire Worship
- Creative Workshops

Limited spots available!

Reserve yours today at fbctifton.org/events or sign up at the Family Life Center.

SENIOR ADULT VBS A SUCCESS!

Special thanks to all who were on the leadership team and who participated in and provided for our Senior Adult VBS. I'm looking forward to Senior Adult VBS in September of 2026! Every area was an answer to prayers, and I praise God for His provisions! Over \$1,200.00 was given to the Kenya Mission Trip through our Mission Offering!

Mark



\$20,000

OUR CHURCH
GOAL

\$6,750

OFFERING
REC'D-TO-DATE



BARRY COOK
Minister of
Music/Worship

CHECK OUT KIDS' CHOIR

Is your child or grandchild involved in one of our Kids Choirs at FBC? If they're not, they should be. Let me tell you why. Kids' choirs are fun and have age-appropriate goals. Our three preschool choirs are designed to let the kids have fun, have time to interact with their peers, and sing songs that will teach them about Jesus without the pressure of performing. Our 1st-2nd grade choir begins to teach some fundamentals of music while continuing to teach why it's important to praise God and to learn more about Him. They also focus more on opportunities to lead worship by singing from the stage. Finally, our 3rd-5th grade choir teaches more music fundamentals, more about Jesus, and the value of offering our best praise to Him. Our 1st-5th grade choirs meet at 4:30pm on Wednesdays and will serve a snack between choir and their next WNK activity. Preschool choirs meet at 5:45pm, also on Wednesdays. Please join us!

FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL

If you missed our first Footsteps of Paul launch party in March, we'll host one more. It will take place this Tuesday night, September 30th, at 6:00pm in the Memorial Social Hall. You will hear the dates and itinerary for the trip and some of the historical and spiritual significance of the places that we'll visit. Our host will also offer some generous discounts for the Celebration Concert for those in attendance. If you would like more information, feel free to give me a call!

Barry



MARCIA STAUB
Kids Ministry Director

FAMILY NIGHT AT THE FARM - OCTOBER 15

You and your family are invited to Family Night at the Farm at Rutland Farms. We hope you plan to join us for a night of fellowship and family fun. We will gather from 6:00-8:00pm to enjoy all the farm activities and a pizza dinner. The shop will be open for your family to purchase anything that you would like from Rutland Farms. We are collecting candy for our end-of-the-night treat bags. You can drop candy off at the candy drop-off bins around the church.

KENYA MISSION TEAM UPDATE

Our Kenya Mission Trip is quickly approaching, October 24-November 2, 2025. A team of 14 will be embarking on Nairobi to partner with Chris and Katie Nalls to serve Missionary Kids as their parents are in training together. Please be in prayer for provision, protection, and perseverance. Many on the team are still in the fundraising stage, and we covet all prayers as we prepare to serve God internationally.

Marcia

FIRST FACTS & FIGURES

AUGUST 2025

BUDGET GIVING

Monthly Offering	\$217,686.85
Offering to Date	\$2,075,107.34
Expenses to Date	\$2,181,208.55
Budget to Date	\$2,324,439.20
State Missions Offering	\$6,750.00

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

Contributions to Date	\$1,227,157
Total Cost	\$2,300,000
Loan Balance Owed	\$1,025,000

**WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE**

1807
average

**SMALL GROUP
ATTENDANCE**

615
average

• SYMPATHY •

The family of Justin & Sara Hand in the death of his grandmother, **Sarah Hand**, of Irwin County.

The family of Shelley Fandel in the loss of her dad, **Phil Dominy**.

The Sibley family in the passing of **Stan Sibley**, former members.

Bill & Faye Cooper in the loss of Bill's brother, **H.G. Cooper, Jr.**, of Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Laura Whitfield in the loss of her brother, **Teman G. Gandy, Jr.**, of Tallahassee, Florida.

Laverne Willis in the loss of her sister-in-law, **Patsy Willis Goodman**, at Cypress Pond.

• NEW MEMBERS •
Sommer Jordan; Jay Morris

• BAPTISMS •
Ty Hall; McCrae Schwartz

LOVE GOD.

LOVE PEOPLE.

MULTIPLY DISCIPLES.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR BEACON VIA EMAIL ONLY?

Let us know by calling the church office at 382.6063 or emailing Ansley Griner at acotton@fbctifton.org

CONNECT WITH US!



THIS WEEK AT FBC
SEP 29-OCT 5, 2025

MON	10:30am	Staff Meeting (MSH)
	1:00pm	Game Day for Senior Adults (Concourse)
TUE	10:00am	Facilities Team Meeting (Room 117)
	3:00pm	FUSE Preteen Ministry (Red Door)
	6:30pm	PAL - Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (S.S. Annex)
	7:15pm	Red Door College Ministry (Ministry Center)
WED	4:30pm	Elementary Choirs War Room (C105)
	5:30pm	Kids Open Gym
	5:45pm	Kids Recreation or Art
	6:00pm	Middle School Gathering (Gathering Room)
	6:15pm	Kids Mission Classes
	6:45pm	Adult Choir (Choir Room)
THU	7:00pm	High School Gathering (Gathering Room)
	6:30pm	Celebrate Recovery (MSH/Chapel)
FRI	12:00pm	Church Office Closed
SUN	8:30am	Connection Worship I Service (Ministry Center)
	9:45am	Small Groups for all ages Starting Point - New Member Class (G25)
	11:00am	Cornerstone Service (Sanctuary)
		Connection Worship II Service (Ministry Center)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- OCT 15** Family Farm Night at Rutland Farms
- OCT 21-24** Suwannee River Retreat for Senior Adults

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF EVENTS, MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER, VISIT **FBCTIFTON.ORG/EVENTS**

THE BEACON (USPS 548-820) is published monthly by First Baptist Church, Tifton
404 Love Avenue, Tifton, GA 31794
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE BEACON, 404 Love Avenue, Tifton, GA 31794

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at TIFTON, GA

TJ Mauldin, *Lead Pastor*
Kenny Miller, *Pastor of Small Groups & Assimilation*
Mark Myers, *Minister of Recreation & Sr. Adults*
Matt Howell, *Student Pastor*
Marcia Staub, *Kids Ministry Director*
Jose Lopez, *Hispanic Pastor*
Barry Cook, *Minister of Music/Worship*
Daniel Gibson, *Connection Worship Pastor*
Kiet Le, *Vietnamese Pastor*