



On that first Easter morning, Mary approached the tomb expecting to find death and a finality to the work of Jesus. Instead, the earth shook beneath her feet, the stone was rolled away, and the angel present pronounced that Jesus was not there anymore. The world around her was no longer certain, and yet the Gospels record that she ran from that place filled with joy. This Eastertide season, for 50 days, we will explore the texts of 1 Peter and seek to find our own ways to run into the uncertain world around us and share the joy found in the Good News of Easter. We hope you will journey with us while discovering a joy within you worthy of sharing.

Cover artwork by Stella Paulino; colored by the Weaver family.

If you would like to know more about becoming a member of First Baptist or about making a profession of faith, please see Thomas Quisenberry in the Narthex after the service. A time will be arranged when you can speak together about the next steps to take in finding your place in our church family.



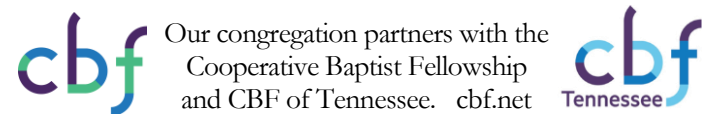
The inaugural BachFest, hosted by FBC, is planned for Friday evening, April 17. This community concert, celebrating the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, is a come-and-go (or come-and-stay) event, running from 5:00-9:00PM. It includes performing groups and soloists, instrumental and vocal, from this area and is being held in our reverberant sanctuary, taking advantage of our sonorous organ. There is no admission charge.

Our next **Cool Kids Collective** (3rd-5th graders) is planned for Sunday, April 19, from 12:30-3:30PM. We will meet in the Lobby and travel by church bus to the **Tennessee Riverpark** for a picnic lunch (subs, chips, cookies) and a delightful afternoon of running and enjoying the great outdoors together. We'll share a short devotional out under the sun, also. Contact Kelly Kunf for more information (561.252.2969 / kelly@fbcchattanooga.org).

Epiphanies will be hosting a **Listening Session** led by Chattanooga in Action for Love, Equality, and Benevolence (C.A.L.E.B.) in E217 on Wednesday, April 22 at 6:15PM. This grassroots funded nonprofit organization works to bring together communities, organizations, and individuals to make their voices heard. This is truly a listening session where you are asked to share your concerns, ideas, and feelings around topics concerning public safety and the criminal justice system. All who are interested are welcome!

Sabbath Week, April 26-May 2

As we near the end of spring activities and gear up for summer fun, the church will honor a SABBATH WEEK from April 26 - May 2. Regular churchwide activities for Sundays after worship and Wednesdays will PAUSE for this week. We also ask that committees refrain from planning gatherings this week. The intent is for our community of faith to REST, to encourage families to have time together, and to prepare for a busy, fun summer ahead.



Our congregation partners with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and CBF of Tennessee. cbf.net



With this QR code, you can donate to our budget, pay for event tickets, give to a mission opportunity, and more. Please contact the church office with any questions.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 12, Second Sunday of Easter

- 9:00AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:30AM Library Open until Worship Begins
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 12:30PM Missions Committee – E217
- 4:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal – FH200
- 5:30PM Youth Supper – Youth Area
- 6:00PM Youth Bible Study – Youth Area
- 6:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite

Tuesday, April 14

- 10:00AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Group – Conference Room
- 11:00AM Lunch & Learn – Youth Area
- 5:30PM Moving Forward CJC Classes – Lower Chapel Area
- 6:30PM GriefShare – E213

Wednesday, April 15

- 11:00AM FBC Serves at the CHATT Foundation
- 5:30PM Fellowship Time (BYOF) – Fellowship Hall
- 6:15PM Preschool Music/Missions – E107
- 6:15PM Children’s Choir – E111
- 6:15PM Youth Gathering – Youth Area
- 6:15PM Epiphanies (study/discussion/action) – E217
- 6:15PM Midweek Study (Pastor led) – Fellowship Hall
- 7:00PM Gym Time (School-Age Kids/Youth)

Thursday, April 16

- 2:00PM Shower Ministry – Rec Center Area

Friday, April 17

- 5:00PM BachFest – Sanctuary

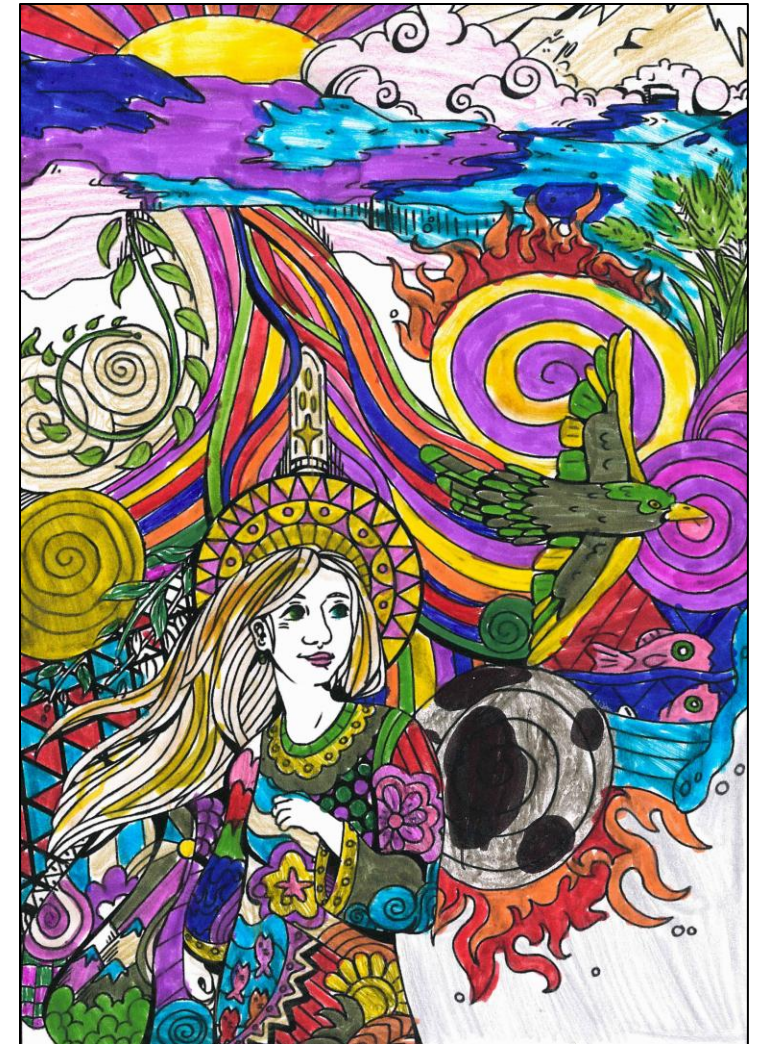
Sunday, April 19, Third Sunday of Easter

- 9:00AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:30AM Library Open until Worship Begins
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 12:15PM Finance Committee – E217
- 12:30PM Cool Kids Collective – Lobby
- 4:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal – FH200
- 5:30PM Youth Supper – Youth Area
- 6:00PM Youth Bible Study – Youth Area
- 6:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite

Worship Leaders

- Dr. Thomas Quisenberry -----Senior Pastor
- Rev. Jeff Parker-----Minister of Music and Worship
- Rev. Kelly Kunf -----Interim Minister of Youth and Children
- Dr. Darryl Miller-----Organist
- Ms. Jenny Parker-----Pianist

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 423.265.2257 www.fbcchattanooga.org



*Go with Joy into an
Uncertain World*

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Chattanooga, Tennessee
 April 12, 2026

*As you enter, please pick up a card and write a prayer concern on the back.
Some of these will be read aloud during our Prayers of the Community.
These will be collected during the first hymn. Thank you for your participation.*

GATHERING

SONGS OF COMMUNITY *Darryl Miller, organ*

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

GREETING *Thomas Quisenberry*

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Now, our mourning becomes dancing,
our tears become laughter.

The punchline sat in the grave's shadows,
until God played the best joke ever on life.

So, break out loud guffaws, fill the room with giggles;
may our joy sound from the rafters!

Come, stoic old folks and snickering kids,
come, all you curmudgeons and wise-crackers.

**We join the God who laughs with us,
who raised Jesus with a wink and a grin.**

Welcoming everyone to joy everlasting!

PRELUDE *arr. M. Ham*

Down in My Heart

APPROACH

PRAYER OF ADORATION *Thomas Quisenberry*

*HYMN 611 *HYMN TO JOY*

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*RESPONSE *GLORIA PATRI*

(All children are invited to come forward at this time.)

Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
Ghost; as it was in the be - ginning, is now and ev - er shall be,
world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

CHILDREN'S TIME *Jeff Parker*

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE *Rose Thomas*

O Lord, giver of joy and laughter, we thank you for giving us these gifts:

for opportunities to laugh at ourselves,

for the belly laughs of children,

for friends and family who love us because of our quirks,

for the courage to smile even when difficulties arise,

for those who have hope even when there seems to be no hope,

for saints among us who overflow with laughter and spread your joy,

for teaching us that we can be born again,

for the woman who finds a lost coin and celebrates with her friends,

for the absurdity of a camel trying to fit through the eye of a needle,

for the father who is willing to look foolish as he runs to greet his lost son,

for tiny bits of faith that can move entire mountains.

O Lord, giver of joy and laughter, we thank you for giving us these gifts.

We can laugh because of the most amazing things of all –

that you conquered death, that the tomb is empty,

that light shone so bright that it overcame the darkness.

Thank you, thank you, **thank you! Amen.**

*HYMN *Farquharson, Klusmeier*

Give To Us Laughter
(Please see insert.)

PROCLAMATION

EPISTLE READING *Thomas Quisenberry*

I Peter 1:3-9 (NRSV)

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE *Thomas Quisenberry*

Living Hope

RESPONSE

*HYMN 305 *DARWALL'S 148TH*

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY *Kelly Kurf*

PREPARATION FOR GIVING *Andy Schwall*

Just as the women ran joyfully from the empty tomb to share the good news of the resurrection, may we joyfully provide the means by which that same good news can be shared with our neighbors here and throughout the world.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS *C. Courtney*

I Know that My Redeemer Lives
Chancel Choir

I know that my Redeemer lives,

and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

And though my body be destroyed, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

Alleluia, alleluia, I know that my Redeemer lives.

Now we see in a glass dimly, but then, face to face;

now I know in part, but then I shall know as I am known.

Alleluia, alleluia, I know that my Redeemer lives.

*DEDICATION OF GIFTS *OLD 100TH*

Praise God, the Source of life and birth; praise God, the Word, who
came to earth; praise God, the Spi - rit, ho - ly flame; all
glo - ry, hon - or to God's name! A - men.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Andy Schwall*

*WORK OF THE CHURCH *Thomas Quisenberry*

*WORDS OF BLESSING

*CHARGE *Thomas Quisenberry*

*RESPONSE *ACCLAMATIONS*

**This is the threefold truth on which our faith depends,
and with this joyful cry worship begins and ends:**

Christ has died! Christ is ris - en! Christ will come a - gain!

POSTLUDE *A. Travis*

Procession of Joy
(Hymn 611)

Following the postlude, please exit at your convenience.

*Please stand, if able. *OL#728820-A*

Give To Us Laughter

Words by
WALTER FARQUHARSON

Music by
RON KLUSMEIER



1. Give to us laugh - ter, O Source of our life.
2. Give to us laugh - ter as sign of deep joy;
3. Why do we wor - ry that we will lose face?
4. E - ven in sor - row and hours_____ of grief,



Laugh - ter can ban - ish so much of our strife.
let us in laugh - ing find Christ - ian em - ploy,
Why act like king for the whole hu - man race?
laugh - ter with tears brings most heal - ing re - lief.



Laugh - ter and love give us whole - ness and health.
join - ing with stars and with bright north - ern lights,
Of - ten in fam - ily, and of - ten with friend,
God, give us laugh - ter, and God, give us peace,



Laugh - ter and love are the coin of true wealth. _____
laugh - ing and prais - ing and shar - ing de - lights. _____
laugh - ing at pride caus - es an - guish to end. _____
joys of your prom - ise a - mong us in - crease. _____

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