



Our celebration of Trinity Sunday marked the beginning of the season in the church year known as Ordinary Time. In this case the word “ordinary” comes from the word “ordinal” meaning ordered and is used because these Sundays are numbered following Pentecost. The season represents a time of growth and the application of our faith to our everyday lives. This important season takes us through the summer and into the fall. We hope you will join us each week for the journey.

August is a \$1 month. We are collecting \$1 bills as part of our offering each Sunday during the month to be used to help fund items needed by our community such as prescription medications, gas cards, bus cards, and IDs. We encourage you to place your dollar bills in the offering baskets as they are passed during Worship. Last Sunday, we received \$178. Thank you!

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.

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Mark your calendar!

Wednesday, August 12

- Fellowship Time: Spaghetti Supper, 5:30PM
(Provided with thanks for our special summer by the Children and Youth!)
- Summer Celebration/Fall Kickoff, 6:15PM (May begin a bit earlier.)

Sunday, August 16

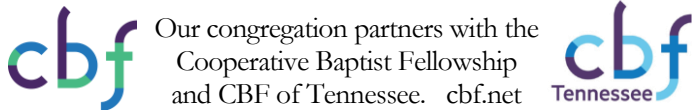
- Youth Sunday Evening Activities Begin, 4:30PM
(Choir, Supper, Bible Study)
- Chancel Choir Celebration/Fall Kickoff, 6:00PM (Heritage Clubhouse)

Wednesday, August 19

- Fellowship Time (Bring Your Own Food), 5:30PM
- Wednesday Evening Kickoff:
Children’s choirs / Youth gathering / Adult studies, 6:15PM

Forms for Deacon Nominations will be available in several locations around the building beginning **next Sunday, August 16**. The form will also be available to download and print from our website. Instructions for nominating and returning your form are included. Forms must be delivered or mailed to the church. No form will be accepted via email or without the member’s name being signed legibly. Nominations close on Sunday, September 6, at 12:15PM.

Lunch & Learn resumes on **Tuesday, August 18**, with *The Chosen*, season 5, episode 1. We will continue following this format each Tuesday: 11:00AM – a showing of the episode for that week; Noon – a discussion of that episode. Feel free to bring your own lunch to eat at the tables as we talk. For those who cannot get away from work or other commitments for the full time, feel free to watch the episode at home and join us for the time of conversation.



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, August 9

- 8:45AM Summer Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
Promotion for all children & youth
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
Blessing of the Backpacks
- 12:15PM Missions Committee Meeting – E217

Monday, August 10

- 7:00PM Marketing Team Meeting (via Zoom)

Tuesday, August 11

- 10:00AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Group – Conference Room
- 5:00PM Investment Committee – E217
- 6:00PM Tuesday Book Group – Conference Room

Wednesday, August 12

- 5:30PM Summer Celebration/Fall Kickoff – Fellowship Hall
- 7:15PM House & Grounds Cmte – Conference Room

Thursday, August 13

- 2:00PM Shower Ministry – Rec Center Area

Friday, August 14

- 8:30AM Habitat for Humanity Workday

Sunday, August 16

- 8:45AM Summer Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 4:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal – FH200
- 5:30PM Youth Supper – Youth Area
- 6:00PM Youth Bible Study – Youth Area
- 6:30PM Chancel Choir Celebration/Kickoff – Heritage Clubhouse

Tuesday, August 18

- 10:00AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Group – Conference Room
- 11:00AM Lunch & Learn – Youth Area

Wednesday, August 19

- 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 group) – E217
- 6:15PM Midweek Study (Pastor led) – Fellowship Hall
- 7:00PM Gym Time (School-Age Kids/Youth)
- 7:15PM Youth Ministry Leadership Team Mtg – Youth Area
- 7:30PM Committee on Committees – Conference Room

Worship Leaders

Dr. Thomas Quisenberry -----Senior Pastor
Rev. Jeff Parker-----Minister of Music and Worship
Rev. Kelly Kunf -----Interim Minister of Youth and Children
Ms. Emily Tousek-----Guest Music Leader
Dr. Darryl Miller-----Organist
Ms. Jenny Parker-----Pianist
Mr. John Steele -----Guest Pianist



401 Gateway Avenue, Chattanooga, TN 37402
www.facebook.com/fbcchattanooga
423.265.2257 www.fbcchattanooga.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Chattanooga, Tennessee
August 9, 2026

GATHERING

SONGS OF COMMUNITY

Bryan, Melissa,
Owen, and Jude Laseter

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

GREETING

Thomas Quisenberry

We see light, hope, and joy;
we bring heart, soul, mind, and body;
we share blessings and fears;
we bring faith and doubt.

With all that we are and all that we have, let us worship God.

PRELUDE

G. Young

Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing

APPROACH

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Kelly Kunf

*HYMN 32

ELLACOMBE

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Rose Thomas

Genesis 37:1-4, 18-28 (NRSV)

The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Rose Thomas

God, we confess that we do not always understand your ways.
We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns
and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing.

We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult,
and quick to question your presence and your power.

Forgive us.

Grant us patience to wait for your good timing.

Open our eyes to recognize your leading in our lives—
to listen for your gentle whisper when we least expect it.

And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience.

We praise you for your faithful love,
and the assurance of your abiding presence.

Amen.

*HYMN 840

VILLE DU HARVE

It Is Well with My Soul

PROCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING

Thomas Quisenberry

Matthew 14:22-33 (NRSV)

The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

C. Courtney

Be Not Afraid

Summer Choir

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you;
be not afraid, I have called you by name.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
when you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o’er you;
when you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;
you are mine, you are precious in my sight.

My love for you is everlasting, my love for you shall have no end.

MESSAGE

Thomas Quisenberry

Taking That First Step

RESPONSE

*HYMN 834

PRECIOUS LORD

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Thomas Quisenberry

PREPARATION FOR GIVING

Emily Martin

For all who are wandering in the shadows of loneliness,
may our gifts bring light.

For all who have had promises broken,
may our gifts bring healing.

For all who have been left behind by the powerful,
may our gifts offer the gift of community.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

arr. G Sikes

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name

*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

Emily Martin

*WORK OF THE CHURCH

Thomas Quisenberry

Children’s Time

Kelly Kunf

Blessing of the Backpacks
(Please see the insert.)

*WORDS OF BLESSING

*BENEDICTION

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

arr. A. Travis

I Sing the Mighty Power of God
(Hymn 32)

Following the postlude, please exit at your convenience.

*Please stand, if able.

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Blessing of the Backpacks

God our teacher,
who helps us to understand the world around us,
thank you for the privilege of education.

We celebrate the beginning of this school year
and ask for your blessings upon us the students,
the educators, and the families who support them all.

You have given us minds that grow and develop in unique ways,
at unique speeds, and we are grateful for that miracle.

You speak to us through the words, actions, feelings and play of children.

You call us to listen to the Spirit speaking through our families, teachers,
as well as with crayons, silly songs, snacks, and rest time.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

With you, every transition and new start is a reminder of your goodness,
for you are always creating fresh, amazing things in us and through us.

Though we are sad about the summer ending,
we are grateful for this school year.

We appreciate the opportunity to learn and grow,
knowing it is one of the biggest privileges we have.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We pray as students of all ages, abilities, disabilities,
and backgrounds, learn in a rainbow of ways and styles.

We pray for our hearts and all they hold—
excitement and nervousness, disappointment and hope.

We give you all our loves and fears.

We pray for steady self-esteem and deepening resilience.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We pray for our minds,
that they will expand in wonder and celebration,
learning not just from the books studied, but the people beside us.
Open our minds with a willingness to be changed in unexpected ways,
and settle our thought loops in peaceful places.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We pray for our hands,
that they will reach out to help welcome and care.
Bless our hands with patience and dedication as they grasp pencils
and type on keyboards, swish paint brushes and clap in song,
grip monkey bars and lunch box handles,
spin wheelchair tires and basketballs.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We pray for our mouths,
that they will speak words bringing life and connection.
Help us use our mouths to honor the dignity and belovedness of all.
Remind us to open our mouths for deep belly breaths
when we're feeling anxious or afraid.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

(continued on overside)

We pray for our feet,
that they will move toward those different from us
and help others in safe ways.

Plant our feet next to those who feel alone,
and bless our steps down hallways and sidewalks.

We know you are with us wherever our feet go or stay.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We pray for our eyes,
that they may see ourselves and others with compassion.
Point our eyes toward those who are forgotten or struggling.

Grow us in flexibility to see from all kinds of angles.
Bless what and how we see, whether we're looking at a screen,
a whiteboard, or the beauty of a person's face.
And help us see with the most important eyes—
the eyes of the Spirit within us.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We pray for our ears,
that they will genuinely listen to all voices,
especially those that haven't been listened to much.
When things get noisy, help us listen extra carefully for your voice.
Help us hear with the most important ears—
the ears of the Spirit within us.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We say a special prayer for parents,
as the start of a new school year is always another leap of faith.
Wrap them with your reassuring love as they entrust their children to you.
When questions remain unanswered, and the realm of control is finite,
bless them with peace and the promise you are right there with their child,
whether heading to preschool or driving off to college.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We also pray now for teachers, staff and administrators.
Bless these faithful servants with courage and confidence,
knowing you are in their classroom with a steady hand on their shoulder.
Give them peace, patience, and balance in the pressures they face,
and bravery to build structures and systems which justly serve all your children.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.

We do not forget there are children and families
and teachers who do not have the resources they need.
We remember those who have what they need to learn and grow in safety,
and those who lack supplies, teachers, safe buildings,
and accommodations for all needs and abilities.
We pray for health and wholeness, fun and growth,
surprise and amazement, for this school year ahead,
knowing you will hold them all, all the way through.

Loving God, hold us and our prayers, for we belong to you.