



first baptist church

CHATTANOOGA

GATEWAY

A place to be. A place to serve.

September 23, 2026

401 Gateway Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37402

423.265.2257

www.fbcchattanooga.org

We welcome Rev. David Graybeal as our guest proclaimer this Saturday, September 26. Dave is originally from Marion, Virginia. He is a graduate of Emory & Henry College and Emory University's Candler School of Theology. He was ordained in 2000

and has served Methodist churches in England and East Tennessee. He currently serves as the Senior Pastor at Signal Crest United Methodist Church on Signal Mountain. He is also an adjunct professor at Tennessee Wesleyan University and an author. He and his wife Tracy have two sons, Noah, who is studying architecture at UT, Knoxville, and Wesley, who is studying sustainable development at Columbia. We eagerly anticipate receiving the message he brings.



Saturday, September 26, 2026



Worship at First
Streamed and in-person

5:00PM

Rev. David Graybeal

Philippians 2:1-13

The Humanity and Humility of Jesus

FBC CHATTANOOGA AND THE IRONMAN CHATTANOOGA RACE

Gratefully, we have been given notice ahead of time that the Ironman Chattanooga race taking place on Sunday, September 27, will have all roads leading to FBC Chattanooga blocked for that morning. Since we have that information, we can plan our time of worship and also be present to cheer on racers.

*** We will have** Worship in the Chapel on Saturday evening, September 26, at 5:00PM.

***We will NOT have** Sunday School or Worship at 401 Gateway Avenue on Sunday morning, September 27 (due to streets being closed for Ironman Chattanooga).

***We will have** a group cheering on racers on the 26th. Due to road closures, **you must arrive** in our front parking lot off 6th Street **between 7:30-8:00AM** and be prepared to **stay until 11:00AM**. We may not pass anything out, but we can encourage and cheer the racers. **Bring your noise makers!**

***We will have** our regular Sunday evening youth activities and choir rehearsals on September 27. Roads will be accessible by then.

GROWTH TASK FORCE

A letter from our pastor was published in the August 26, 2026, issue of the *Gateway* indicating a strong consensus was shown during our recent conversation and listening sessions for the need to strengthen our ministries with children, youth, and families. In order to address this need together in a considerate and prayerful manner, a task force has been formed by our Deacon Council. The task force's goal is to bring a proposal to the congregation that offers a thoughtful path forward for our ministries with children, youth, and families. That proposal will seek to honor both our hopes for the future and the realities of where we are today. The group has chosen to be known as the **Growth Task Force** and is comprised of the following members:

Sheila Albritton
Samuel Bond
Doran Carrell
Roberta Echols
Alishea Hixson
Ben Johnson

Emily Laseter
Steve Partridge
Mandy Pickett
Jessica Shiflett
Verbie Prevost



The Deacon Council has approved the following slate of **Deacons for 2027-2029** with the caveat that the person listed to be ordained will undergo that process first. An Ordination Council is pending followed by final Deacon Council approval and a church vote at a later date.

Jim Blentlinger
Samuel Bond
Charlie Cooper
Laura Cooper
David Hixson
Melissa Laseter

Bryan Laseter
Emma Mullins
Verbie Prevost
Rusty Rouse
Caroline Shoop
*Jessie Weaver

*to be ordained

Joshua (left) is doing his part for our Youth Community Service project on September 20.

Church Family Concerns

(Updated from prayer requests and by office staff; not listed in order of priority)

Folks all over the world without food, water, shelter, safety
Those affected by recent natural disasters
Those affected by acts of deportation
Those affected by mental health issues
Local, state, and national elections
Youth/Children Task Force

Stephanie & David Daley
Barry Dent and his grandparents
Pollye Gross
Sandy Hood

Brenda Hooper
Linda & Dan Johnson
Barbara Koller
Tommye & Don Manning

Wilbourne Markham
Lynne Mayfield
Barbara Nolen
Melissa Phillips

Cissy Rash
Sue Sisson
Annette Spinks
Imogene Stone
Penny Tullock
Sharon Wilkins & Ebony
Tom Williams, Sr.

Barry Dent and his grandparents
Billie Jean, Rose Thomas's sister-in-law
Carlinda, Cordelle Terrell's friend
Tim Burton's coworker
Rosemary Cheek, Patsy Renegar's sister
Larry Ford, Angie Ward's uncle
Doris Heath, Grady Worley's cousin
Anthony Henderson's father, Ronald (Anthony, FBC custodian)
Jeff Hudson, Chase Shiflett's dad
Maria Johnson

Teresa Longer, Sandra & Charlie Longer's daughter-in-law
Mark McGowan, Steve Yantis's friend
Holly Harris Misirly, Sharon & Emily Tousek's relative
Pat Moses, Lynn Strong's mother
Martha Patterson, Cheryl McAfee's sister-in-law
Dmitry Pikulik (Kyiv), relative of Serhii Pikulik
Kelby & Jordan Proctor

Sara Ellen & Ron Reid, Mary Jayne Allen's friends
Ron Renegar, Brenda Underwood's friend
Lance Robbins, Tom McCullough's friend
Rick Rushworth, the Markham's friend
Charlotte Slaughter, the Markham's friend

Ruby Smith, Hellen Gross's neighbor
Jerry Spinks, Leroy Spinks's brother
Cindy Storey, Carol Prevost's friend
Gara Strong, Rodney Strong's sister-in-law
Cathy Suarez, Rusty Rouse's friend
Lynn & Allen Welton, Wilbourne Markham's relatives

Note received from

The Carol Martin family



Enjoying a break after the
Youth Community Service project.

SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 23

5:30 pm Bring Your Own Supper Fellowship Hall

Babies / Toddlers / Preschoolers

5:45 pm Childcare E106

6:15 pm Preschool Music & Missions E107

Children (K-5th grade)

6:15 pm Children's Choir E111

7:00 pm Gym Time Gym

Youth

6:15 pm Youth Gathering Youth Area

7:00 pm Gym Time Gym

Adults

6:15 pm Epiphanies E217

*Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of
Transgender Christians* by Austen Hartke (pt. 1)
Facilitated by Jeanne Alley & Karen Henderson

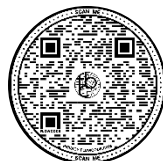
6:15 pm Midweek Study FH:

*Following the Call: Living the Sermon
on the Mount Together*, (ed. Charles E. Moore)
"Master Teacher & Foolish Wisdom"
Facilitated by Thomas Quisenberry

FINANCE REPORT

(for Sept 16, 2026)

MTD Receipts	\$79,167.75
MTD Expenses	\$70,147.58
MTD Deficit/Excess	\$ 9,020.17
YTD Receipts	\$662,083.95
YTD Expenses	\$895,855.66
YTD Deficit	-\$233,771.71



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.

NOTE-WORTHY FRIENDS

(They'd love a note from you.)

Dot Forlidas
2143 Northpoint Blvd #2101
Hixson, TN 37343

Emma Gohr
1100 Gateway Ave #6087
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Patti Gross
671 Alexian Way RM 614
Signal Mtn, TN 37377

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Tyler Cain, Jamie Fitch, Matthew Hellier
Coty Kissinger, Michael Land
Virginia Condry Ledman, Keith Mays
Sydney McDougal, Nathan Skidmore

Sept. 23 Melinda Grubbs
Bryan Laseter
Sept. 24 Mollie Vannoy
Sept. 25 Sally Dickerson
Joshua Shoop
Sept. 26 Barbara Davis
Shelley Kincer
Jordyn Parker
Sept. 27 Emily Martin
Vic Oakes
Oct. 4 Billy Hewitt
Oct. 5 Esther Johnson
Oct. 6 Jack Good
Oct. 7 Rose Thomas
Oct. 8 Alishea Hixson
Naomi Miller
Oct. 9 Debbie Hamilton
Jenny Parker
Randy Warren



Parents' Night Out
Friday, October 2, 6-10pm
 -Cost: \$5/child, or \$10/family
 -Check in at the Lower Lobby Entrance (Blue Tile)
 RSVP to Lizzie by Sept. 30th
 423-648-2542 or
 lizzie@fbcchattanooga.org

Oktoberfest Adult Ministry Luncheon
Sunday, October 4
12:15PM
Fellowship Hall
\$10 ticket
 Menu: Pork roast & brats, kraut, carrots, German salads, dessert
 Tickets may be purchased during church office hours by Oct. 1.
 If you choose to pay online, please email lila@fbcchattanooga.org to confirm the purchase.

Our Missions Committee is looking for local ministries that we might support in addition to the ones many of us are already involved in through our church. Do you **volunteer regularly** for a ministry outside of our church? Or **serve on a board** at a place that needs volunteers? (Ronald McDonald House is an example of a place we've served in the past but, as far as we know, we have no current connections there.)

If you know personally of places that could use more volunteers, **email** Frances (frances@fbcchattanooga.org) and indicate that ministry including a short description of that place's needs.

There are also **blue sheets** in your Sunday School packet and around the lobby area for listing this information. Those need to be left in the nearby basket or returned to the office through your SS packet.

Thank you for your help in "discovering" new places to be the hands and feet of Christ.

LIFE THROUGH A JESUS LENS
A JESUS WORLDVIEW CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 12-13, 2026 NASHVILLE
 Presentations, conversations & inspiration —
 focused on the defining priority of following Jesus
 Register now at
jesusworldview.org

Located at Belmont University and organized by Jesus Worldview Initiative.

FBC Ministerial & Office Support Staff

Dr. Thomas Quisenberry	Senior Pastor	
Rev. Jeff Parker	Minister of Music & Worship	
Rev. Kelly Kunf	Interim Minister of Youth & Children	
David Daley	Facilities Supervisor	423.648.2548
Lila Knauth	Financial Associate	423.648.2547
Patty Spells	Church Administrative Assistant	423.265.2257
Lizzie Alford	Education Administrative Ass't	423.648.2542
Frances Marandi	Music Administrative Assistant	423.648.2543

ON THE CALENDAR, SEPT. 17 – SEPT. 30

Thursday, September 24	
Shower Ministry	2:00PM
Saturday, September 26	
Worship (Saturday) in the Chapel	5:00PM
Sunday, September 27	
FBC Cheering Group for Ironman	7:30AM
No SS or Worship	
Youth Choir Rehearsal	5:00PM
Youth Supper	5:45PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	6:00PM
Youth Bible Study	6:15PM
Tuesday, September 29	
Prayer Shawl Ministry Group	10:00AM
Lunch & Learn	11:00AM
Moving Forward Chattanooga Classes	5:30PM
Children's Leadership Committee	7:15PM
Wednesday, September 30	
Master's Mats Group	10:00AM
Media Library Workers	10:00AM
Fellowship Time (BYOF)	5:30PM
Children's Choir	6:15PM
Youth Gathering	6:15PM
Epiphanies	6:15PM
Midweek Study (Pastor led)	6:15PM
Gym Time (School-age kids & youth)	7:00PM
Committee on Committees Meeting	7:15PM
Friday, Oct. 2	
Parents' Night Out	6:00PM
Sunday, October 4	
Youth & Chancel Choirs Rehearsal	9:00AM
Sunday School/Bible Study	9:30AM
Fellowship Time/Library Open	10:30AM
Songs of Community	10:50AM
Worship	11:00AM
Adult Ministry Luncheon - Oktoberfest	12:15PM
Youth Choir Rehearsal	4:30PM
Youth Supper	5:30PM
Youth Bible Study	6:00PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	6:00PM
Monday, October 5	
Marketing Task Force	7:30PM
Tuesday, October 6	
Prayer Shawl Ministry Group	10:00AM
Lunch & Learn	11:00AM
Moving Forward Chattanooga Classes	5:30PM
Wednesday, October 7	
Master's Mats Group	10:00AM
Media Library Workers	10:00AM
FBC Serves at the CHATT Foundation	11:00AM
Fellowship Time (BYOF)	5:30PM
Preschool Music/Missions	6:15PM
Children's Choir	6:15PM
Youth Gathering	6:15PM
Epiphanies	6:15PM
Midweek Study (Pastor led)	6:15PM
Gym Time (School-age kids & youth)	7:00PM
Thursday, October 8	
Shower Ministry	2:00PM
Friday, Oct. 9	
Habitat for Humanity Workday	8:30AM

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



We urgently need additional workers. Some of our most faithful workers are having medical issues. Of course there are scheduling conflicts, too. Tools and training are provided. There are many types of jobs on site for folks, any gender, any skill level. The main requirement is a desire to work to help low income families be able to have a place to call their home. If you can spare the second Friday each month for this ministry, call Jim McAfee (423.802.5011) for information.



Night Out with the Girls!
(from left) Katie Mae, Madeleine, Joanna, Libbie



Youth Community Service volunteers for Chambliss Center for Children at Camp Jordan:
(from left) Joshua W, JJ, Emory, David, Jude, Madeleine, Paige, Joanna, Owen, Micah, Charlotte, Joshua Q, Ben, Ms Kelly, and Jessica.

The "chaperones,"
Kelly & Maggie.

