



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SEASON OF GROWTH, 14

GATHERING MUSIC

RINGING OF THE TRINITY

GREETING

Thomas Quisenberry

For the beauty of the summer day,
and the comfort of friends nearby;
for the invitation to love and be loved,
for our God who extends that call;
for time set apart to nourish the soul,
for time to go out into the world armed with love:
For all these things we give thanks. Let us worship God.

HYMN

AS THE DEER

As the Deer Pants for the Water

(All children are invited to come forward during the final stanza.)

As the deer pants for the wa - ter, so my
soul longs af - ter you. You a - lone are my
heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.
You a - lone are my strength, my shield; to you a - lone
may my spir - it yield. You a - lone are my
heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Thomas Quisenberry

CHILDREN'S TIME

Sheila Albritton

GOSPEL READING

Kelly Kunf

Romans 13:8-14 (NRSV)

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

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Kelly Kunf

Gracious God of love,
we are grateful that you have revealed yourself to us:
each of us loved by you as children,
each of us a reflection of you,
each of us bound together by love.

We come to you, O God, weary and carrying heavy burdens.

(Following each line below, share around your table the names of those for whom we should pray.

This will be followed by moments for silent prayer.)

Some bear the yoke of illness.
Some bear the yoke of loss and grief.
Some bear the yoke of caring for a loved one.
Some bear the yoke of unemployment or underemployment.
Some bear the yoke of hunger and homelessness.
Some bear the yoke of oppression or marginalization.
Some bear the yoke of depression.
Some bear the yoke of addiction.

From these burdens, dear God,
we pray for rest;
we pray for healing;
we pray for release;
we pray for wholeness.

On this holiday weekend,
we recognize that our nation also bears many burdens:
we feel trust eroding in our government leaders;
we have sisters and brothers who labor for a wage
that will not provide for their needs;
we struggle to find ways to work together for the common good;
we allow the least among us to suffer and languish;
we fixate on what divides us
rather than on what brings us together as one people.

(silent prayers for our nation)

God of all life, remind us this weekend of our common belief that all people are created equal.

Inspire us to ensure that all your children enjoy life, freedom, and happiness.

Unite us in your light, tethered by your love and guided by your presence,
to bring your kingdom of peace and justice into this world.

It is for this kingdom that we now pray,
Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Love Is, Love Is, Love Is, Love

① D A Bm F#m G D Em7 A
Love is love is love is love, Love is love is love is love, Oh__

②
Love__ is love is love__ is love, Oh__ love__ is love__ is love__ is love. Oh__

③
Love, love, love. All we need is love, love love. All we need is

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Thomas Quisenberry

*Ezekiel 33:7-11 (NRSV)*The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Thomas Quisenberry

Sentinels

HYMN

NETTLETON

In the Midst of New Dimensions

(Please place your offering in the baskets on your table while we sing.)

**In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,
who will lead the pilgrim peoples wand'ring in their separate ways?**

(refrain) *God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
we your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.*

**Through the flood of starving people, warring factions, and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care?**
(Repeat refrain.)

**As we stand, a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams.**
(Repeat refrain.)

**Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.**
(Repeat refrain.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Mary Jayne Allen

WORK OF THE CHURCH

Thomas Quisenberry

CHARGE

Thomas Quisenberry



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
 ¡Dios de la es-pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun-do en
 lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus-tice speed us
 cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -
 on our way, bring-ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
 nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.
Refrain
 Pray-ing, let us work for peace; sing-ing, share our joy with all;
 O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.
 working for a world that's new, faith-ful when we hear Christ's call.
 Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

OL#728820-A

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

MINISTERS

Dr. Thomas Quisenberry -----Senior Pastor

Rev. Jeff Parker-----Minister of Music and Worship

Rev. Kelly Kunf-----Interim Minister of Youth and Children

MUSICIANS

Mr. Bryan Laseter Ms. Jenny Parker

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

401 Gateway Avenue

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

www.facebook.com/fbcchattanooga.org423.265.2257 www.fbcchattanooga.org

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





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.

During August, we collected \$1 bills as part of our offering to be used to help fund items needed by our community such as prescription medications, IDs, and bus passes not covered through our FBC CARES Fund. Last Sunday, we received \$135, giving a total for the month of \$881. Thank you so much for your generosity!

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 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.

LIFE THROUGH A JESUS LENS

A JESUS WORLDVIEW CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 12-18, 2026 NASHVILLE

Presentations, conversations & inspiration —
focused on the defining priority of following Jesus

Register now at

jesusworldview.org



CINDY MORGAN

Plus, **FINALE on the FARM!**

Singer-songwriters circle in Amy Grant's barn



JACQUI LEWIS



MARCIA RAMIREZ



Bill Leonard



JOHN FRANKE



TOMMY SIMS



JONATHAN BINGHAM



David Dark



Andy Gullahorn w/ Gabe Scott

The upcoming Jesus Worldview Conference is being held at Belmont University in Nashville.

“The Jesus Worldview initiative seeks to build a broader community focused on the following of Jesus as the defining priority of the Christian faith. Engage, support and share in this effort by visiting jesusworldview.org.”

~Email from Jesus Worldview Initiative 08.31.26

ON THE CALENDAR, SEPT. 7 – SEPT. 17

Monday, September 7

Church Office Closed – Labor Day
Family Camp at Dogwood

Tuesday, September 8

Prayer Shawl Ministry Group	10:00AM
Lunch & Learn	11:00AM
Moving Forward Chattanooga Classes	5:30PM
Tuesday Book Group	6:00PM
Finance Committee Mtg (via Zoom)	7:00PM

Wednesday, September 9

Master's Mats Group	10:00AM
Children's Parent Meeting	5:30PM
Fellowship Time (BYOF)	5:30PM
Preschool Music/Missions	6:15PM
Children's Choir	6:15PM
Youth Gathering	6:15PM
Epiphanies (study/discussion/action)	6:15PM
Midweek Study (Pastor led)	6:15PM
Gym Time (School-age kids & youth)	7:00PM
House & Grounds Cmte Meeting	7:15PM
Personnel Committee Meeting	7:15PM

Thursday, September 10

Shower Ministry	2:00PM
Marketing Task Force (via Zoom)	7:30PM

Friday, September 11

Habitat for Humanity Workday	8:30AM
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Saturday, September 12

Adult-ish Class Retreat, Dogwood

Sunday, September 13

Adult-ish Class Retreat, Dogwood	
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	9:00AM
Sunday School/Bible Study	9:30AM
Fellowship Time/Library Open	10:30AM
Songs of Community	10:50AM
Worship	11:00AM
Missions Committee Meeting	12:15PM
Youth Choir Rehearsal	4:30PM
Youth Supper	5:30PM
Youth Bible Study	6:00PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	6:00PM

Tuesday, September 15

Prayer Shawl Ministry Group	10:00AM
Lunch & Learn	11:00AM
Moving Forward Chattanooga Classes	5:30PM

Wednesday, September 16

Master's Mats Group	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 (study/discussion/action)	6:15PM
Midweek Study (Pastor led)	6:15PM
Gym Time (School-age kids & youth)	7:00PM

Thursday, September 17

Finance Committee Mtg (via Zoom)	4:30PM
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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

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.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS COMING SOON!

For the next four months we'll have a catered meal on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. It will be served in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:30PM. No reservations are required. The fee for each meal is \$7 regardless of age. There is a \$20 family maximum. Payment through our QR code will be accepted as well as cash and checks.

Menu for Wednesday, September 16

Chicken Spaghetti or Plain Noodles
Tossed Salad
Garlic Knots
Double Chocolate Cake

Deacon Selection 2027

- Sunday, August 16: Forms available for Deacon nominations
- **Sunday, September 13: Nominations end at 12:15PM**
- Wednesday, November 4, 6:15PM: Deacon Ordination Council, if needed, followed by ratification by the Deacon Council of the slate of deacons for 2027-2029
- Thursday, November 5: Final slate emailed to church members
- Sunday, November 8: Church affirmation of deacons for 2027-29
- Sunday, November 15: Ordination of new deacons and blessing of all deacons.

Work has begun on the budget for 2027 and the Committee on Committees is working as well. Plan to say "yes" when asked to serve!



Our **CBF Tennessee Coordinating Council** (the main governing body) had a retreat recently with reports of disaster response activities, about Connect Church (supporting rural churches), and from the Field Coordinator Search Team. Do you see some familiar faces in the above photo of most of the team? Both Alishea Hixson (L) and Maggie Quisenberry (R) are members of FBC Chattanooga serving on this council which oversees the operations, policies, and business affairs of CBF Tennessee. Rev. Lee Fox (center) is serving as the Interim Field Coordinator. We hope you will complete the survey in the next column if you have not already done so.

TNCBF Field Coordinator Search Survey

1. What would you name as the most important skills for the work of leading TNCBF?
2. What would you consider the most important character traits for leading TNCBF?
3. What do you consider to be the primary priority for the ministry of the TNCBF?
4. What else would you like the search committee to know?

You can also respond online:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C5CNMY5>

or



If you choose to complete this hard copy of the survey, please do so, then cut it from the newsletter, and return it to Ann-Marie Blentlinger, who is part of the search committee.