



first baptist church

CHATTANOOGA

GATEWAY

A place to be. A place to serve.

October 7, 2026

401 Gateway Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37402

423.265.2257

www.fbcchattanooga.org

Worship Care Workers

October 11

for babies, toddlers, & preschoolers

Jan Varnell, Mandy Pickett



Deacon Greeters

1. Sandra Longer
2. Tom McCullough



Worship at First

Streamed and in-person

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Sunday School / Bible Study 9:30AM

10:50AM

SONGS OF COMMUNITY

JOHN STEELE

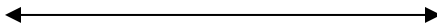
11:00AM

Dr. Thomas Quisenberry

Matthew 22:1-14

Invited

The 3rd quarterly giving statements for 2026 are being sent this week. If you have an email address on your account, it will be sent by email. The email is from First Baptist Church with the URL address of notifications@onrealmmail.org. The subject line is "Your giving statement from First Baptist Church of Chattanooga." Please note this is a legitimate email. If you don't see this email, check your spam folder. If you have any questions, please contact Lila at 423.648.2547 or lila@fbcchattanooga.org. Below is a letter from our Chairs of Deacons and Finance.



October 7, 2026

Dear First Baptist Church of Chattanooga Members,

As you review your 3rd Quarter giving statement, we want to make sure that our entire congregation understands the financial situation of the church. Our church has been blessed with previous members who had the foresight to leave money to the church for investment purposes, and current lay leadership has set aside TDOT dollars for investment as well. Knowing this tends to give us a feeling of security through tough times. We have relied on returns from our investments for far too long to cover our deficit and have even had to "dip" into capital to cover those short falls. If we continue with this pattern, those investments will continue to dwindle and eventually deplete.

Thankfully, there are some positives financially. Those same TDOT dollars have allowed for many improvements on delayed maintenance and upgrades to facilities. Responsible and frugal spending have allowed our costs to be down overall, and while we still have a deficit, our tithing is slightly above where it was a year ago. Despite these positives, we are currently at a deficit of over \$260,000. Stewardship comes in a variety of ways through our spiritual gifts: teaching, serving with a ministry, leading, encouraging. While our spiritual gifts are equally important, we think we would all agree we want our church to be financially stable.

Exciting things are happening to help grow our church, from the work of the Marketing Task Force to the newly developed Growth Task Force, which will help set our path for the Children and Youth Ministries and explore possible new ministries for our young adults and families. However, this will take some time to accomplish. So, as you review your giving and we enter the 4th Quarter, we ask that you consider if you are able to increase your tithing and/or invite a friend to church as we continue to try and spread the great work this church is doing.

Thank you for considering this request. Every dollar helps us to decrease our deficit and invest in the future of this church.

Thank you,

Jim Boles, Chair of Deacons, and Lynne Mayfield, Chair of Finance

first baptist



(Community Assistance for Residential Essential Services)

We collected \$581 at the end of worship last Sunday, October 4, to support this ministry. Funds go to help those in need pay for utility bills. They are also used to supply 40 food boxes per month from the Chattanooga Area Food Bank to those needing food. Thank you for your generosity!

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 acts of deportation
Those affected by mental health issues
Local, state, and national elections
Growth Task Force, Marketing Task Force
Sylvia Colvin

Stephanie & David Daley

Lavone Frost

Sandy Hood

Linda & Dan Johnson

Barbara Koller

Tommye & Don Manning

Lynne Mayfield

Phyllis Miller

Barbara Nolen

Melissa Phillips

Cissy Rash

Annette Spinks

Imogene Stone

Penny Tullock

Sharon Wilkins

Tom Williams, Sr.

Carlinda, Cordelle Terrell's friend

Ken Boothe, John Steele's stepfather

Rosemary Cheek, Patsy Renegar's sister

Allen Coffelt, Jane & Doug Lewis's son-in-law

Davy Crockett, Sue Crockett's son

Barry Dent's grandparents

Devin Dent

Larry Ford, Angie Ward's uncle

Family of Pollye Gross

Doris Heath, Grady Worley's cousin

Family of Barbara Hudson

Jeff Hudson, Chase Shiflett's dad

Maria Johnson

Brian Krizan, Cindy Elam's son-in-law

Nancy & Jim Lewis, Doug Lewis's sister-in-law & brother

Teresa Longer, Sandra & Charlie Longer's daughter-in-law

Mark McGowan, Steve Yantis's friend

Holly Harris Misirly, Sharon & Emily Tousek's relative

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

Hospitalized

Brenda Hooper – St. Thomas, Nashville



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Sunday, October 11

Fall Break, no youth evening activities

Wednesday, October 14

Fall Break, no evening activities

Wednesday, October 21

Churchwide Dinner 5:30PM

Sunday, October 25

Fall Festival, 5:00-6:30PM

The 2026-27 *Prayers of the People* will be published beginning with the First Sunday of Advent, November 29. Meanwhile, you may access current dates through cbf.net/pray.



NOTE-WORTHY FRIENDS

(They'd love a note from you.)

Judy Hudson
2760 Northpoint Blvd, #114
Hixson, TN 37343

Linda & Dan Johnson
113 Valleybrook Rd
Hixson, TN 37343

Barbara Koller
1067 Battlefield Pkwy #312
Ft. Oglethorpe, GA 30742

SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 7

5:30 pm Bring Your Own Supper Fellowship Hall
7:15pm Youth Ministry Leadership Team Youth Area
7:30pm Committee on Committees Conference Rm

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
Walk & Talk, led by Jeni Lee
6:15 pm Midweek Study FH:
Following the Call: Living the Sermon on the Mount Together, (ed. Charles E. Moore)
"Mournful" and "The Meek"
Facilitated by Thomas Quisenberry

FINANCE REPORT (for October 7, 2026)

MTD Receipts	\$16,710.92
MTD Expenses	\$31,942.06
MTD Deficit/Excess	-\$15,231.14
YTD Receipts	\$691,644.95
YTD Expenses	\$967,459.35
YTD Deficit	-\$275,814.40

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.

Oct. 7	Rose Thomas
Oct. 8	Alishea Hixson Naomi Miller
Oct. 9	Debbie Hamilton Jenny Parker Randy Warren
Oct. 10	Josie Carrell Sheila Hinkle Hugh Prevost
Oct. 13	Freida Carter Lavene Guthrie
Oct. 14	Felicia Boyer Teena Ray Mike Willard
Oct. 15	Lucy Herrod Delores Markham
Oct. 16	Richard Sullivan
Oct. 17	Emory Boshears Carol Prevost Hannah Weaver
Oct. 18	David Hixson Ronny McNeil

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

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



We will be returning to September's worksite (2211 Davenport St, 37406) where we'll focus on framing the back deck: set posts, install all joists, and tape joists; then move to the front to set posts and rim joists. Plan to meet at 8:30AM.

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.

Media Library News

- If you love books and would love to help in our church Media Library, volunteers spots are available on Sunday mornings. Please let Cindy Elam know about your interest (423.298.6552).
- Did you know that someone else might like to read the library book you still have sitting on your shelf, or on your table, or mixed in with your games, or under your bed..... We'd love to have them returned to us – no explanation needed!



ON THE CALENDAR, OCT. 8 – OCT. 21

Thursday, October 8

Shower Ministry 2:00PM

Friday, Oct. 9

Habitat for Humanity Workday 8:30AM

Sunday, October 11

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

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00PM

Tuesday, October 13

Prayer Shawl Ministry Group 10:00AM

Moving Forward Chattanooga Classes 5:30PM

Wednesday, October 14

Master's Mats Group 10:00AM

Media Library Workers 10:00AM

Adult Ministry Trip (Franklin) 2:00PM

No Evening Activities – Fall Break

Thursday, October 15

Adult Ministry Trip (Franklin)

Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom) 4:30PM

Friday, Oct. 16

Adult Ministry Trip Returns 3:00PM

Sunday, October 18

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

Youth Excursion (TBD) 12:30PM

Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM

Youth Supper 5:30PM

Youth Bible Study 6:00PM

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:00PM

Tuesday, October 20

Prayer Shawl Ministry Group 10:00AM

Moving Forward Chattanooga Classes 5:30PM

Deacon Council Meeting 5:30PM

Wednesday, October 21

Master's Mats Group 10:00AM

Media Library Workers 10:00AM

FBC Serves at CHATT Foundation 11:00AM

Wednesday Evening Dinner 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

Prayer Shawl Ministry Group 10:00AM

Midweek Study (Pastor led) 6:15PM

Gym Time (school-age kids & youth) 7:00PM

Members' Message Board



October Needs List

Kitchen

- Sugar, Coffee, Spices
- Vegetable Oil
- Napkins, Syrup
- Grits

Community Center

- Travel-sized Products (shampoo&conditioner)
- Deodorant&Lotion
- Laundry Detergent
- Razors

Case Management

- Paper Towels
- Cleaning Supplies
- Bleach

Maclellan Shelter for Families

- Disposable Plates and Cups
- Laundry Detergent
- Kids Snacks & Juices

Clothing Program

- Blankets
- Men's Tennis Shoes
- Jackets
- Socks & Underwear

Outreach

- Backpacks
- Tarps (Green or Camo)
- Trash Bags

chattfoundation.org

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

FBC Ministerial & Office Support Staff

Dr. Thomas Quisenberry	Senior Pastor	
Rev. Jeff Parker	Minister of Music & Worship	
Rev. Kelly Kurf	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



Dr. Cathy Bradley-Scott (pictured standing) is a professor in the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Department of Social Work, coordinator for the Bachelor of Social Work program and a Gerontological Society of America Fellow. Recently, she led a workshop on "Boundaries" - an area many volunteers struggle with, for both Moving Forward and the Shower Ministry.

Members' Message Board

DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

October 24, 2026, 10AM - 2PM EDT

Dispose of Unused, Unwanted and Expired Prescription and Over-The-Counter Medications. We will also collect vape pens or other e-cigarette devices.

- Walgreens - 3605 Brainerd Rd.
- Walgreens - 2289 Gunbarrel Rd.
- Walgreens, East Ridge - 5301 Ringgold Rd.
- Walgreens, Ooltewah - 9307 Lee Hwy.
- Walgreens, Hixson - 5478 SR-153
- Elks Lodge #91 - 1067 Graysville Rd.
- Food City, Ooltewah - 1667 Ooltewah Ringgold Rd.
- Food City, Harrison - 8634 Hwy. 58
- Food City, Red Bank - 3901 Dayton Blvd.
- Mt. Canaan - 4801 SR-58

Scan the QR code for a list of all locations:



TN Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

This project is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Promoted locally by The Hamilton County Coalition, a non-profit organization working to reduce substance misuse. (www.hccoalition.org).

SOUTH AFRICA MISSION TRIP, JULY 8-19, 2027 (approximate dates)

Next summer, FBC Chattanooga will return to South Africa to serve alongside our ministry partners in Winterton and Johannesburg. This trip will give us opportunities to serve, build relationships, and experience the ways God is at work through our partners and communities.

During our time in Winterton, we will work alongside:

- Inspired Hope - landscaping, gardening classes, computer classes, and food and medical distribution.
- Gabriel Foundation - assisting women & children who have experienced abuse by providing care, hope, and support.
- Thembalethu - serving at a rural community clinic through Holiday Club, medical education, pharmaceutical access, and repairs to the grounds.



We will also visit Sister Didi in Johannesburg, whose ministry has transitioned to serving the immigrant community through medical care and support.

And, as part of the journey, we'll travel to Pilanesberg National Park for a safari, experiencing the beauty and wonder of God's creation.

This year, we will be joined by our ministry partners from Second Baptist Church of Memphis and First Baptist Church of Wilmington.

At this time, the dates are flexible by a day on either end of the trip. Once we know better numbers, we can narrow down trip route and thus dates. If interested or you want to know more, contact Thomas by the end of October.

PARKING LOT UPDATE

For several years, First Baptist Chattanooga has enjoyed a wonderful partnership with the YMCA as we work together to meet the needs of our community. As the YMCA's parking needs have increased, we have rented our parking lots to them for their staff and members use during the week. That arrangement continues.

However, the YMCA has noted an increasing number of vehicles using our parking lots that are not affiliated with either the church or the YMCA. To help address this, the YMCA will begin monitoring the parking lots (Sanctuary and upper lots) during the morning hours through 1:00PM. A hired parking service will identify unauthorized vehicles and issue notices and fines.

If you receive you receive one of these notices while attending a church function, please contact the church office.

Please note: this monitoring will not affect the Office Parking Lot usage on any day of the week. Parking for our afternoon and evening programming and mission events should also continue as usual without issue.

Thank you for helping us be good partners with the YMCA while also being good stewards of our church parking facilities.

Barbara was so appreciative of Kenneth sharing communion ...



...with her and for a recent visit from Roberta and Ann-Marie. She sends her love to everyone!