

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - FLORALA, AL

# THE BEACON

## Words from Pastor Chris

Last month I mentioned briefly that we are planning to emphasize discipleship in a new way starting in January. We are looking to build a new discipleship group culture that leadership believes will provide greater accountability to the spiritual disciplines that promote spiritual growth. The goal is that the spiritual growth experienced in these groups will translate into a church filled with disciples who are also disciple makers themselves. If we are going to be a Great Commission focused church, then this must be the goal. This is where our church mission statement comes from as well. "Making disciples to live like Jesus to transform the world for Christ."

Leadership has also defined what we call a "dream disciple." We believe that at FBC Florala, spiritual growth that will take place in these D-Groups will lead to disciples who are:

- F - Faithful Followers
- B - Bold Witnesses
- C - Christ-Like Servants
- F - Fully Accountable

**"FBCF"**

This is who we believe Christ wants us to be. The desire of this new discipleship culture is to help people grow in each of these areas. As we do, we will find ourselves being much more effective at being personal disciple makers.

The question for many I am sure though is what will this look like? We have trained over 20 group facilitators to lead these groups. Over the next few weeks, they will be reaching out to individuals to populate these groups. To achieve maximum effectiveness, these groups must be capped at 5-6 people. Groups will be gender specific. Groups will meet each week for around an hour. To join one of these groups we ask for strong commitment to the expectations. Each member of the group will be expected to read around 2 Bible chapters a day and do a brief journaling of that reading that we call H.E.A.R journaling. When the group meets, each member will share some of what they have journaled throughout the week. Another key component of these groups is Scripture memory. Each week, group members will be expected to memorize a specific passage and then recite that passage in whole group time. Group meetings will be designed to not only promote accountability to Scripture engagement but also to personal holiness and evangelism.

Many are probably wondering where we can fit one more thing into our already busy schedule. Our current plan is to have these groups meet on Sunday evenings, although there is flexibility. We will provide space at the church along with childcare. We need accountability to the things of Christ and these groups will provide it unlike any other ministry we offer. If someone asks you to join a group let me encourage you to simply say yes and see how Jesus will grow you into a stronger disciple who makes strong disciples.

Blessings, Bro. Chris

NOVEMBER 2025  
Issue 181



## *Opportunities For Worship*

**SUNDAY**  
Sunday School 8:45am  
Worship 10:00am

**WEDNESDAY**  
Dinner 5:30pm  
Requested Donation  
is \$5 for Adult Meals

**Bible Study for ALL**  
6:15-7:15pm



Two opportunities to be involved in missions right here at FBC FLORALA:

1) Our church will serve as an official **DROP-OFF CENTER** for shoeboxes. We will be servicing the area of Florala, Lockhart, Laurel Hill, Paxton (southern Covington County and northern Okaloosa and Walton counties). We will be open on the following days to receive boxes: Mon., Nov. 17th - 10:00 am-12:00 pm. Tues., Nov. 18th - 8:30 am-10:30 am. Wed., Nov. 19th - 4:00 pm-6:00 pm. Thurs., Nov. 20th - 12:00 pm-2:00 pm. Fri., Nov. 21st - 7:00 am-9:00 am. Sat., Nov. 22nd - 8:00 am-10:00 am. Sun., Nov. 23rd - 12:30 pm- 2:30 pm.

Please let me know if you'd be interested in helping man the drop-offs. SIGN-UP LIST will be out on Wednesdays and Sundays.

2) **PACK A SHOE BOX.** It's never too early to begin buying supplies for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Visit Official Shoebox Gift Suggestions for specific items to place in a girl or boy box. These shoeboxes are shipped all over the world to children who need to hear the gospel.

This is the perfect way to be on mission right here from Florala, AL. Our goal is 400 boxes this year.

We want to be known as a church on mission - an Acts 1:8 church. Missions is not just an international field, but a local field as well. This is your opportunity to make an impact for the Kingdom.

Bro. Brent Zessin, PROVERBS 3:5-6

## GOLF OUTING SCORES 2025

The FBC Florala golf outing on Sunday, October 18th was a great day of fun and fellowship. The men were challenged with lessons from the #1 golfer in the world today, Scott Scheffler.

His first priority is his commitment to JESUS CHRIST! Golf is a platform that he uses to share his faith. Scotty makes it clear that golf is what he does and it is not his identity. His identity is that he is a follower of JESUS.

His second priority is to be a GODLY husband and father.

His third priority is surrounding himself with strong Christian friends. Scotty met his caddie, Ted Scott, in a Bible study and they became accountability partners.

WHAT IS YOUR #1 PRIORITY?

DOES YOUR FAMILY COME BEFORE YOUR HOBBIES/JOB?

ARE YOUR FRIENDS A GODLY INFLUENCE?

TO WHOM ARE YOU ACCOUNTABLE?

THE MASTERS' VICTORY WILL ONLY BE IN THE HISTORY BOOKS, BUT THE VICTORY OF PLACING YOUR SECURITY AND IDENTITY IN THE MASTER (JESUS CHRIST) PUTS YOU IN THE LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE!

Team: Jeff, Marcus, Joe, Ryan - shot 7 under par.

Team: Rod, Deane, Connor, Brent - shot 2 under par

Team: Jeremy, Brad, Chris, Phillip - shot 3 over par

Team: Clay, Parker, Karley, AJ, Lewis - shot 5 over par.

PRAISE THE LORD!

Bro. Brent, Proverbs 3:5-6

## MEN'S SKEET SHOOT OUTING

**WHEN:** SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

**TIME:** 3:00-5:00 PM

**WHERE:** HUNTING LODGE on LONG ROAD

**THINGSTO DO:** SKEET SHOOTING, GOLF, FISHING, CORN HOLE, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

**\*YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF FBC FLORALA TO ATTEND**

**\*INVITE A FRIEND**

*I HOPE AND PRAY YOU  
WILL JOIN US ON SUNDAY,  
NOVEMBER 9, AS WE  
PURSUE HOW TO MAKE AN  
IMPACT FOR JESUS CHRIST.*

Bro. Brent, Proverbs 3:5-6

## SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP

WHEN: Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

WHERE: Atlanta, Ga.

WHAT: Process Christmas Shoe Boxes.

TIMES TO WORK: Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 3:30-8:30pm. and Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00am-3:00pm.

INFORMATION: We will leave at 7:00am on Fri. morning, return on Sat. evening. We will use the church van as our transportation.

COST: Hotel room and food.

\*Please pray about you and your family joining us. We have reserved 14 slots. We have 5 couples (10 people) signed up. Attendees must be 13 years old or older to work in the processing center.

**PLEASE LET BRO. BRENT KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.**

## NEXTGEN PASTOR UPDATES

Thank you, First Baptist Church of Florala! It is obvious that the Lord is at work among our children and families; one indicator I look for is how many adults actively serve in our children's ministry. We have 40 adults that are serving First Baptist Kids each week! This church couldn't minister to families and teach God's word to our children without you. I have the privilege of baptizing a new believer in our kid's ministry next month!

TeamKID is going great! Every Wednesday we have 40-50 kids from toddlers-6<sup>th</sup> grade that are growing in their knowledge of Christ. It has been an adjustment, but everyone has bought in and are singing the praises of the new material. Let me encourage you to invite your coworkers and friends to come be a part of TeamKID at FBC. God's word is being taught, and children are being disciplined!

Not only is the Lord at work in kid's ministry, but he is also moving among our students. We have 2 students to baptize over the next few weeks who have given their lives to Christ. Through preaching God's word and praying for the Holy Spirit to convict hearts, students are being saved! Is God calling you to serve in First Baptist Student Ministry? There is a huge need in this community for believers like you to reach an unreached group right here in Florala, Alabama. Our students are eager to know the Lord, serve in a church, and begin a lifelong commitment to follow Jesus; you could be the one who helps them begin that life changing relationship with the Lord!

See "THINGS TO REMEMBER" on the back page.

Bro. Brad



# Tithe.ly

Giving to FBC has never been easier! Our Church App has the church information + GIVING APP.  
<https://tithe.ly.app.link/fbc-florala>

## TRI-CITIES CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

Our sales are \$8,791 so far this month. On Food Distribution Day in the month of Oct., we served 170 families, and handed out 6,952 pounds of food.



First Baptist Church Florala is proud to join in with Florala First Assembly of God Church to provide all food recipients with a Thanksgiving meal. This meal will consist of a family-size ham, stuffing mix, green beans, yams, cake mix with icing, and cranberry sauce. This meal is provided in addition to the regular food distribution that is given out every month. Our desire is that you know we love you and we want you to have a wonderful Thanksgiving day with your family and friends.

**"AND DO NOT FORGET  
TO DO GOOD AND TO SHARE  
WITH OTHERS, FOR WITH  
SUCH SACRIFICES GOD  
IS PLEASED."**

**HEBREWS 13:16:**

God Bless You All, Cindy Phillips



## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE AND CHALLENGE SHOEBOX MINISTRY - FBC'S FRIENDLY COMPETITION

**FBC FLORALA CHURCHWIDE GOAL: 400 BOXES.**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2024 - BOXES DUE.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 - CHILDREN'S PACKING PARTY

SUNDAY SCHOOL FRIENDLY COMPETITION FOR **BRAGGING RIGHTS ONLY**:

**GROUP 1:** SARA & DONNA'S CLASS VS WADE'S CLASS WILL COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER

**GROUP 2:** JEFF & DONALD'S CLASS, GREG & JONATHAN'S CLASS, AND JEREMY'S CLASS  
WILL ALL COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE BRO BRENT.

Millions of children around the world are being impacted by the simple shoebox gift you/our church gives.  
One box can touch not only just the child, but the whole family.

THANKYOU, and GOD BLESS YOU, FRANKLIN GRAHAM

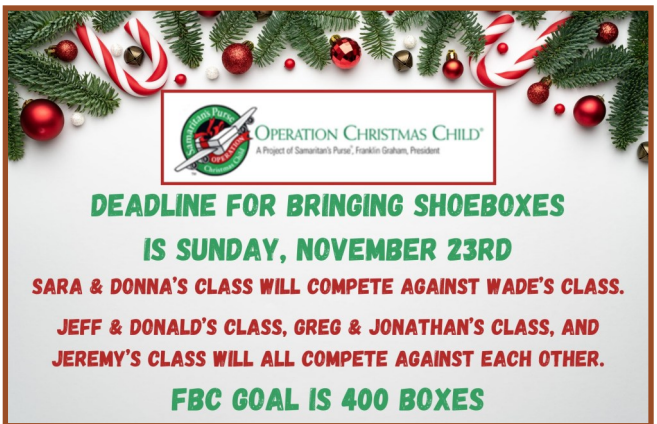
PRaise THE LORD! BRO BRENT, PROVERBS 3:5-6



### Men's Outing

**WHEN:** SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025  
**TIME:** 3:00-5:00 PM  
**WHERE:** HUNTING LODGE on LONG ROAD  
**THINGS TO DO:** SKEET SHOOTING, GOLF, FISHING, CORN HOLE, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF FBC FLORALA TO ATTEND. INVITE A FRIEND!



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD®**  
A Project of Samaritan's Purse® Franklin Graham, President

### DEADLINE FOR BRINGING SHOEBOXES IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD

**SARA & DONNA'S CLASS WILL COMPETE AGAINST WADE'S CLASS.**  
**JEFF & DONALD'S CLASS, GREG & JONATHAN'S CLASS, AND  
JEREMY'S CLASS WILL ALL COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER.**

**FBC GOAL IS 400 BOXES**



You Are Invited To

### Thanksgiving Lunch

November 23rd  
Following Morning Worship

You will be advised  
of what to bring to  
help furnish this meal.



### Happy Thanksgiving

ON WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26TH  
THERE WILL BE:  
NO BUS, NO MEAL, NO SERVICE  
AT FBC FLORALA



## SOUL SISTERS

Happy Fall Ya'll!!! Soul Sisters had a table at the FHS Bonfire/Tailgate event, handing out cookies and bracelets with Christian prints on them. October we had our paint party which was a blast with lots of fellowship and fun. A few pictures are shown below!

We will be doing crafts for the FBC Florala's Fall Festival. Please see Nyleah Clark if you are able to help. November 13 at 6pm, we will be decorating pumpkins for the nursing home - meet at FBC to help with that project. One more project will be announced, but at this point the date is undecided, so listen up and be ready to jump in and help with it as well.

If you feel a need to serve we would love for you to join us.

God Bless, Tabitha Coverstone



### SOUL SISTER PICS



### LADIES MINISTRY PICS



**PASTOR:**

BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

**NEXTGEN PASTOR:**

BRO. BRAD ELMORE

**ASSOC. PASTOR:**

BRO. BRENT ZESSIN

**MUSIC DIRECTOR:**

DALE COLE

**ACTIVE DEACONS:**

AL BENNETT

JOHN COVERSTONE

CARLTON DUKES

WADE FARMER

DARRELL FOLEY

BOBBY PHILLIPS

JAMES PICKRON

JEREMY RADNEY (CH)

RICHARD REEVES

GREG TAYLOR

## LADIES MINISTRY

Our Ladies Ministry had a wonderful time at Babbie Church on October 7th attending the Lisa Harper, Seasons of the Heart, ladies event. Our church bus was full, and we had several of our ladies meet us there. A total of 29 women from FBC were treated to an exceptional spread of delicious and irresistible hors d'oeuvres. And Lisa Harper never disappoints!!! It was a wonderful message. We worshipped with over 300 ladies in our county and beyond. We will definitely do this event again next year. We absolutely cannot fail to thank our bus driver, Pastor Chris Davenport, who drove us to Babbie with 29 backseat drivers!

We are currently looking at the Favored Women's Retreat in Destin scheduled for April 17-19, 2026. We will be getting out more information within the next two months.

Ladies, we would like to have you all connected with our GroupMe text app so that information can be relayed to everyone in a timely manner. If you are not set up yet, but would like to be connected, please contact the office or Sheila Anderson.

Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless our Veterans!

Sheila Anderson

**November 2****Flowers:** Lynn Pomas**Greeters:** Lynn, Frances**Nursery:** Kim, Addy, Rose**Cove Leaders:** Katy, Kim**November 9****Flowers:** FBC - Veteran's Day**Greeters:** Keith, Wade**Nursery:** The Braziles**Cove Leaders:** Paiyton, Connor**November 16****Flowers:** Cecilia**Greeters:** Majors**Nursery:** The Geoghagans**Cove Leaders:** Wehrllys**November 23****Flowers:** Greg & Lana**Greeters:** The Andersons**Nursery:** Rhonda, Trevor**Cove Leaders:** The Caseys**November 30****Flowers:** The Lingleys **Greeters:** Wade, Jessie**Nursery:** Cindy, McKenzie **Cove Leaders:** Lynn, Brittany

**Thank you to all who  
are Volunteers in any  
capacity here at FBC.  
We love and appreciate  
each one of you!**

## PRAYERS WITH FEET

When our PWF ladies met in October there were so many names of friends, family, church members, and community members in need of prayer. As each name was mentioned, we looked to see if there was a physical need we could supply or were they in need of specific prayer. Many times prayer is the ONLY way we can help. However, it is the BEST way we can help.

We made plans for volunteers from our church who enjoy singing to visit our local nursing home on December 16th and sing Christmas songs. Small gifts and a time of visitation will follow with the individual residents. If you would like to join in on the holiday fun, please contact the church office or Sheila Anderson.

Next, Missy Zessin presented to our group information about the Christian women's group in Uganda that she met with and ministered to during their mission trip this past summer. Our ladies wanted to help support these young Christian ladies and unanimously approved a donation of \$1,000.00 to the Breaking Ground Women's Ministry to help fund their women's group for this upcoming year.

And with the holidays just around the corner other ideas concerning spreading Christmas cheer and the love of Jesus to those in our church family and community were discussed.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving and always remember to give thanks to the One that gives all blessings!  
Sheila Anderson



# November 2025

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|                                                         |                                                                                                             |                                                                                 |                                                                               |                                             |                                     |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----|
|                                                         |                                                                                                             | <b>Men</b><br>Meet @ FBC<br>for<br>Prayer Time<br><b>8:00am</b><br>Each Tuesday | Be sure to buy Diapers and Wipes for the TWO Baby Shower Tables in the Foyer! |                                             |                                     | 1  |
| 2<br>Daylight Saving Time Ends<br><i>Set Your Clock</i> | 3<br>Council Meeting 6pm                                                                                    | 4                                                                               | 5<br><u>DINNER MENU</u><br>Spaghetti, Salad, Bread                            | 6                                           | 7                                   | 8  |
| 9<br>Men's Annual Skeet Shoot 3-5pm                     | 10                                                                                                          | 11                                                                              | 12<br><u>DINNER MENU</u><br>Hotdogs & Sausage Dogs                            | 13                                          | 14                                  | 15 |
| 16                                                      | 17<br>Beacon Articles Due <b><u>TODAY</u></b>                                                               | 18                                                                              | 19<br><u>DINNER MENU</u><br>Pancakes & Sausage                                | 20<br>Happy Anniversary Pastor Chris & Katy | 21<br>CSC Food Distribution 9am-1pm | 22 |
| 23<br><u>FBCT-G Meal</u><br>Shoebox Deadline            | 24                                                                                                          | 25                                                                              | 26<br>NO BUS<br>NO MEAL<br>NO SERVICE                                         | 27<br>Happy Thanksgiving DAY                | 28                                  | 29 |
| 30                                                      | The Finance Committee has met and is working on the 2026 budget. Expect a Business Meeting soon to approve! |                                                                                 |                                                                               |                                             |                                     |    |

~ On Nov. 12 ~  
Children's Shoe-Packing Party for Samaritans Purse

Student Fall Retreat

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**PASTOR:**  
**BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT**

23593 Fifth Avenue  
Floral, AL 36442

Phone: 334-858-3234  
www.fbcfloral.com  
Email: fbcjoyce@gmail.com



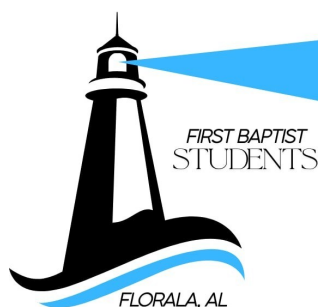
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**WHERE THINGS ARE HAPPENING  
ONLY GOD CAN DO!**

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**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3... NEXT GEN MINISTRY**



October 26, 5-7 PM, FBC Fall Festival  
October 29, Students **serve** Wednesday Dinner  
\*\*November 5, **Deadline** to sign-up Fall Retreat!!!  
November 12, Shoebox Packing Party  
November 21-23, Fall Retreat (7-12 grade) \$100

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TWO Baby Shower “Diaper & Wipe” Tables will be in the foyer from Oct. 27 until November 14. These tables are for Kaleb & Camryn (Brazile) Casey and Cannon & Meredith (Foley) Crum. Please be sure to drop a gift card or Diapers and Wipes to bless the new little boys joining these families.

**Time will change Sunday, Nov. 2nd. Set your  
clock to fall back! Don't be late to church!**



**EVERY SUNDAY  
AT 10:00 AM**

**You Tube**  
**LIVESTREAM**

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FBCFloral>



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Website