

## Ministers

**Paul Baxley**

**Frank Granger**

**Randy Brittain**

**Janet Cleland**

**Brandon Pendry**

**Amanda Lewis**

**Anne Brittain**

**Alan McArthur**

*Senior Minister*

*Minister of Christian Community*

*Minister of Music*

*Minister of Children, Families, and Outreach*

*Minister of Youth and Mission*

*Minister of College Students*

*Organist and Music Associate*

*Pianist*



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# *First Baptist Church*

*Athens, Georgia*

July 9, 2017

11:00 a.m.

*The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost*

# Creative Brooding

This morning we hear Jesus’s gracious invitation: “Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” As we listen expectantly to Jesus, consider Eugene Peterson’s translation of Matthew 11:28-30:

*“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me — watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”*

— Eugene Peterson, *The Message*

Also reflect on New Testament scholar David Garland’s insights in his commentary on the Gospel of Matthew:

*The invitation to take “my yoke” may also assume that persons will be under one kind of dominion or another. One only has a choice of which kind of yoke. For the weary, the burdened, the harassed and helpless, Jesus’ yoke is easy. Again, there is a paradox. The easier yoke does not mean that Jesus makes fewer demands ... He describes his way as hard and narrow, as a cross that needs to be borne and as something that will split families. How can it be said that his yoke is easy? The answer from the text is that he is meek and gentle. Jesus treats his disciples as yokefellows rather than as camels and donkeys to be loaded down. One might also conclude that his yoke is easy because it “fits.” His demands grow out of our needs. Hate is a greater burden to bear than love. Forgiveness lightens the load; anger only makes it heavier.*

— David E. Garland, *Reading Matthew*

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*First Baptist Church is a thriving community in Christ  
where we all participate in worship  
and are transformed by mission.*

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# Weekly Calendar

## Sunday, July 9

9:00 a.m. .... Youth depart for Passport Camp  
9:15 a.m. .... Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship — Fanning Foyer  
9:45—10:45 a.m. .... Sunday School and Bible Study — throughout the building  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship Service — Fellowship Hall  
12:00 p.m. .... Church Conference — Fellowship Hall  
5:00 p.m. .... Walking Group — Oconee Veterans Park

## Monday, July 10

2:00 p.m. .... Staff Meeting — S-104

## Tuesday, July 11

7:00 p.m. .... Boy Scout Troop #22 — Joe Callaway Class

## Wednesday, July 12

5:00 p.m. .... Wednesday Night Supper — Fellowship Hall  
5:15 p.m. .... Finance Committee

## Sunday, July 16

8:30 a.m. .... Mission Team Mtg. — E-112  
9:15 a.m. .... Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship — Fanning Foyer  
9:45—10:45 a.m. .... Sunday School and Bible Study — throughout the building  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship Service — Fellowship Hall  
12:00 p.m. .... Family Lunch and Food Bank Mission Project  
5:00 p.m. .... Walking Group — Oconee Veterans Park

# Serving Together

## Co-Deacons of the Week

**July 9-15:** Evelyn & Doug Martin

July 16– 22: Julie Jenkins, Gigi Lastinger

## Welcome Center Team — July 9

Judy & Jim Ebert

## July Fellowship Team

Ches Smith, Erica Spackman, Andy

Ullrich, Fred Young

## Usher Team

Jerry Gouge, Carl Hedrick, Jimmy

Thomason, Milton Mills, Randon

Ashmore, Steve Smith

## Counting Committee

**July 9:** Dallas Cannady, Bevan Hopper



## **WORSHIP FLOWERS**

*The worship flowers this morning are given in loving memory of John Reynolds on his July 7 birthday anniversary. The flowers are given by Joyce, Jeff, Mike, and family.*



**COMMUNITY NOTES**

The congregation will be called into **CONFERENCE** immediately after worship this morning to vote for the Nominating Committee’s slate of nominees for Church Teams and Committees.

The **FBC WALKING GROUP** gathers for a moderate-paced walk each Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Tonight, we will walk from Oconee Veterans Park.

Join the Seekers for a **FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST** at Cracker Barrel on Wednesday, July 19 at 9:30 a.m. Please call Heather Swank in the church office by July 14 to confirm your attendance.

**CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS** are invited to join us next Sunday, July 16 right after the worship service for lunch and an afternoon of working at the food bank. We will be helping to count, sort, and organize the food. We will gather for lunch after church and then head over to the food bank on Barber St. and work from 1– 3 pm.

*Prayer Concerns*

- Ted Crowe
- Larry Cutshaw
- Rob Harris
- Hilda McDonald
- June Robertson
- Steve Yocum

**OUR CHURCH ON MISSION**

**Emergency Food Bank Needs:**

Cereal, Peanut Butter, Canned Tomatoes

Thank you to everyone who worked hard last week to provide a great host week for **INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY** While we were hosting, IHN leaders were working hard to expand the network.

- The four Mormon churches in the Athens area will serve as a host congregation, hosting their first time June 25-July 2.
- Bethlehem United Methodist is a new host congregation, with their first week Nov. 12-19.
- Union Christian is a new host congregation with Ashford Memorial and First Christian Watkinsville serving as support congregations.
- Trinity Lutheran will serve as a new support congregation for Oconee St. United Methodist.
- Good Shepherd Presbyterian will serve as a new support congregation for Central Presbyterian.
- The Christian Science Church will serve as a support congregation for Holy Cross Lutheran.

We offered six training sessions for new volunteers this past month and have trained 85 people. If you know people at these congregations, please join us in welcoming them to our network! Our next hosting week is in August. Sign up to volunteer online beginning July 15 or contact Brandon Pendry ([brandon@firstbaptistathens.org](mailto:brandon@firstbaptistathens.org).)

Many children in Clarke County Schools are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunch, a crucial meal that disappears in the summer. **SMART LUNCH, SMART KID** ensures that these children are fed during school breaks. We will assemble bag lunches on Tuesday evening, July 18 at 6:00 p.m. at FBC. You can sign up online or contact Brandon Pendry if you are available to help.

*The Worship of God*

**Invitation to Worship** Paul Baxley

**Prelude** *The God of Abraham Praise* LEON /arr. Sylvia Berg Oines

**Invocation** Janet Cleland

**\*Hymn** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON  
*Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise: Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; Praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I’m come, And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home: Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.*

*O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be! Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee: Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; Here’s my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.*

Robert Robinson, 1758

**Old Testament Lesson** Psalm 145:8-14 Brandon Brock

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Testimony in Song** *How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings* Samuel Liddle  
Rachel Eve Apfelbach, Soprano  
*How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts! My soul longeth, yea, fainteth, for the courts of the Lord: My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, Even Thine altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King and my God. O Lord God of Hosts, hear my prayer. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, Than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand.*

Words by Psalm 54

**Silent Prayers**

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer**

Frank Granger

*Our Father, who 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

*During the hymn, children in Pre-K 4’s, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-2 are invited to depart for Children’s Worship and Extended Session in E-110.  
>Please pick up your children immediately after the 11:00 a.m. service.<*

**\*Hymn**

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations! Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
In His arms He’ll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.*

Joseph Scriven, 1855

**New Testament Lessons**

Romans 7: 15-25a  
Matthew 11:25-30

Jenna Wingfield  
Jessie Robinette

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Intense Struggle*

Paul Baxley

**\*Hymn**

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

RESTORATION

*Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love and power.  
I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;  
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

*Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome, God’s free bounty glorify;  
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.  
I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;  
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

*Come, ye weary, heavy-laden, lost and ruined by the fall;  
If you tarry ‘til you’re better, you will never come at all.  
I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;  
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

*Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;  
All the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of Him.  
I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;  
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

Joseph Hart, 1759

**\*Prayer of Stewardship**

Evelyn Martin, Deacon

**Offertory**

*El Shaddai*

Michael Card & John Thompson  
Arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

**\*Response of the People**

*Doxology*

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

**Recognition of Commitments**

**Church Conference**

**Presentation of Nominating Committee Recommendations**

Gary Blasingame

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*Praise Him! Praise Him!*

JOYFUL SONG  
arr. Mark Hayes

**\*Please stand, if able.**