

## Ministers

**Paul Baxley**

**Frank Granger**

**Randy Brittain**

**Janet Cleland**

**Emily Harbin**

**Brandon Pendry**

**Anne Brittain**

**Alan McArthur**

*Senior Minister*

*Minister of Christian Community*

*Minister of Music*

*Minister of Children, Families, and Outreach*

*Minister of College Students*

*Minister of Youth and Mission*

*Organist and Music Associate*

*Pianist*



**First Baptist Church**

355 Pulaski Street/Athens/GA/30601-2860

706.548.1359 Fax: 706.548.2302

[www.firstbaptistathens.org](http://www.firstbaptistathens.org)



# *First Baptist Church*

*Athens, Georgia*

October 8, 2017

11:00 a.m.

*The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost*

# Creative Brooding

## Why We Pass the Offering Plate

by: Wayne Jordan, Stewardship Committee Member

Ever wonder why we still pass the offering plate? Many folks carry neither cash nor checks but prefer to do business electronically. So what's with the church still circulating an offering plate each Sunday morning?

The Apostle Paul did not have to face these same questions but he did realize that giving is more than the physical act. In his letter to the Corinthian church, his plan for giving tied it to worship. It was simply to set aside, on the first day of the week, an amount according to how God had prospered them for the mission of the church. Paul recognized that all we have is from God and that giving should be a regular, worshipful discipline for Christians.

Sunday morning is a good time to be reminded that whatever we have is a gift from God. There is something spiritual that happens when we pass the plate from one person to another. There is something to be gained by releasing from our hands and putting into the hands of others. The offering is more than just an item in our order of worship; it is an act of worship.

*On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income...*

*1 Corinthians 16:1 (NIV)*

---

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

---

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, October 8

8:30 a.m. .... Worship — Fellowship Hall  
9:00 a.m. .... Budget Discussion — Third Floor, Rm. 7  
9:15 a.m. .... Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship — Fanning Foyer  
9:15 a.m. .... Welcome Center Team Mtg. — S-104  
9:45—10:45 a.m. .... Sunday School and Bible Study — throughout the building  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship Service — Fellowship Hall  
2:00 p.m. .... IHN Training — Fellowship Hall  
4:30 p.m. .... Children's Choirs  
4:30 p.m. .... Reforming Questions Small Groups  
5:15 p.m. .... Mission Kids  
5:15 p.m. .... Youth Choir — Choir Rm  
6:00 p.m. .... Youth Choir shuttle to Goggin's Home— FBC Parking Lot  
6:30 p.m. .... Youth Group at Goggin's Home

### Tuesday, October 10

12:00 noon .... Tuesday Noon Bible Study — S-103  
6:30 p.m. .... Young Adult Bible Study and Meal — Home of Kelli and Steve Smith  
7:00 p.m. .... Boy Scout Troop #22 — Joe Callaway Class

### Wednesday, October 11

5:00 p.m. .... Flower Team — S-103  
5:15 p.m. .... Finance Committee — S-104  
5:30 p.m. .... Youth Supper and Missions — E-113  
5:30 p.m. .... Reforming Questions Small Groups — Various locations  
6:45 p.m. .... Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Choir Rm

### Sunday, October 15

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 noon .... Boy Scout Chicken BBQ — FBC Parking Lot  
4:30 p.m. .... Children's Choirs  
4:30 p.m. .... Reforming Questions Small Groups  
5:15 p.m. .... Mission Kids  
5:15 p.m. .... Youth Choir — Choir Rm  
6:00 p.m. .... Youth Choir shuttle to Goggin's Home— FBC Parking Lot  
6:30 p.m. .... Youth Group at Goggin's Home

# The Sunday Messenger

## COMMUNITY NEWS

During the renovation of our Fellowship Hall, our **WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES** have been modified. If you are not already part of a Reforming Questions group but would like more information, please contact Frank Granger (frank@firstbaptistathens.org).

Boy Scout Troop #22 will be offering a take-out **BBQ MEAL** for purchase after worship on Sunday, October 15. As renovations are scheduled to begin in the Fellowship Hall, the troop will work from the FBC Parking Lot.

The congregation will be called into conference at the close of worship next Sunday, October 15 for the limited purpose of voting on the **PROPOSED 2018 CHURCH BUDGET**. The proposed budget can be found in the September edition of FBC News.

## Prayer Concerns

Kathy Barrow      Larry Cutshaw  
Harriett Dwyer    J. Don Edwards  
Judy Fleming      Jim Hall  
The Horvat Family   Charlie Gillespie  
D.C. Rhoden



## Worship Flowers

The flowers in worship this morning are given in loving memory of Charlotte and Newell Crumley by Maria and Alec Schendzelos, Cara Cole and Edward Schendzelos.

## OUR CHURCH ON MISSION

Join our **MISSION MINISTRIES at FBC** by signing up for your choice of ministries on the two month calendar on the second floor hallway. On the **FIRST** and **LAST** Sunday of every month, a mission team member will be in the main hallway to help you sign up to serve with FBC's mission partners.

**EMERGENCY FOODBANK NEEDS:** Canned Soup, Canned Pasta, and Peanut Butter. Please place your donations in the marked bins.

**IHN TRAINING** will be offered at FBC this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us if you'd like to volunteer for IHN.

Individuals are encouraged to provide financial support for **HURRICANE RELIEF** so that funds can be used in the most effective way. Financial gifts may be made online through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (www.cbf.net) or by donating a check payable to FBC with Hurricane Relief in the memo line.

The Seekers are sponsoring a **FOOD DRIVE** in October to benefit the Athens Emergency Food Bank. Please bring donations of non-perishable items (peanut butter, jelly, canned meat, etc.) to church at any time in October and place the donations in the marked bins.

Instead of a Fall Festival this year, the Children's Ministry Team is planning a **FALL FAMILY MISSION EVENT**. Going out as families, we will deliver treat bags into the neighborhoods near the church on Sunday, October 29. Instead of having people come to our campus for candy and treats, we will take the treats to them. Please consider donating 'non-melting' candy for the bags. Donation bins are located around the church building.

# The Worship of God

**Invitation to Worship**

Paul Baxley

**Prelude**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
arr. Mary McDonald

**Invocation**

Brandon Pendry

**\*Hymn**

*I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord*

ST. THOMAS

*I love Thy kingdom, Lord, the house of Thine abode,  
the church our blest Redeemer saved with His own precious blood.*

*I love Thy church, O God! Her walls before Thee stand,  
dear as the apple of Thine eye, and graven on Thy hand.*

*For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers ascend;  
to her my cares and toils be given till toils and cares shall end.*

*Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways,  
her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.*

*Sure as Thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given  
The brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bless of heaven.*

Words: Timothy Dwight, 1801  
Music: Aaron Williams, 1770

**Stewardship Testimony**

Mike Lacy

**Scripture Lessons**

Matthew 28:16-20  
Luke 4:14-21

Janet Cleland  
Frank Granger

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

**Anthem**

*In Christ We Live*  
Sanctuary Choir

arr. Heather Sorenson

*In Christ we live in common bonds of friendship, love, and trust.  
Together we can fully know the cause of Christ is just.  
The love and faith we share are strong. In Christ we live!*

*In Christ we live to serve the One who came to give us life,  
we hear the call, respond in faith, bring darkness to the Light.  
The love and faith we share are strong. In Christ we live!  
In Christ we live to offer hope to all with doubts and fears.  
In worship, service, prayer, and song we stand throughout the years.  
The love and faith we share are strong. In Christ we live!*

Jane Martin and Donn Wisdom, 2004

### Silent Prayers

### Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Paul Baxley

*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.*

### \*Hymn

*We Are People of God's Peace*

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

*We are people of God's peace as a new creation.  
Love unites and strengthens us at this celebration.  
Sons and daughters of the Lord, serving one another,  
A new covenant of peace binds us all together.*

*We are children of God's peace in this new creation,  
Spreading joy and happiness, through God's great salvation.  
Hope we bring in spirit meek, in our daily living.  
Peace with everyone we seek, good for evil giving.*

*We are servants of God's peace, of the new creation.  
Choosing peace, we faithfully serve with heart's devotion.  
Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, confidence will give us.  
Christ the Lord is our defense; Christ will never leave us.*

Words: Menno Simons, 1551; tr. Ester Bergen, 1990  
Music: Piae Cantiones, 1582; arr. Ernest MacMillan, 1930

>>During the hymn, children in Pre-K 4, 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.**<<

### New Testament Lesson

II Corinthians 5:14-20

Emily Harbin

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*The Missional Question: Why Church?*

Paul Baxley

### \*Hymn

*Lord, Your Church on Earth Is Seeking*

ELLESDIE

*Lord, Your church on earth is seeking Your renewal from above;  
Teach us all the art of speaking with the accent of Your love.  
We would heed Your great commission: 'Go now into everyplace;  
preach, baptize, fulfill My mission, serve with love and share My grace.'*

*Freedom give to those in bondage, lift the burdens caused by sin;  
give new hope, new strength and courage, grand release from fears within.  
Light for darkness, joy for sorrow; love for hatred, peace and strife:  
these and countless blessing follow as the Spirit gives new life.*

*In the streets of every city where the bruised and lonely dwell,  
we shall show the Savior's pity, we shall of His mercy tell.  
In all lands and with all races, we shall serve and seek to bring  
All the world to render praises to our Lord, Redeemer, King.*

Words: Hugh Sherlock, 1960  
arr. Wolfgang A. Mozart in Joshua Leavitt's *The Christian Lyre*, Vol. II, 1833  
Arr. Hubert P. Main, 1873

### \*Prayer of Stewardship

Helen Mills, Deacon

### Offertory

*All Things Bright and Beautiful with For the Beauty of the Earth*

arr. Michael

Larkin

### \*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

Paul Baxley

### \*Benediction

### \*Postlude

*Recessional*  
Michael Larkin

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