

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRFIELD

VOLUME 31. ISSUE 12  
NOVEMBER 1, 2024

# THE CHRONICLE



## Thanksgiving Is

Thanksgiving is a time of gratitude to God, our Creator and Provider, whose guidance and care go before us... and whose love is with us forever.

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on the changes, to remember that we, too, grow and change from one season of life to another.

Thanksgiving is a time of changing seasons, when leaves turn golden in Autumn's wake and apples are crisp in the first chill breezes of fall.

Let us remember the true meaning of Thanksgiving. As we see the beauty of Autumn,

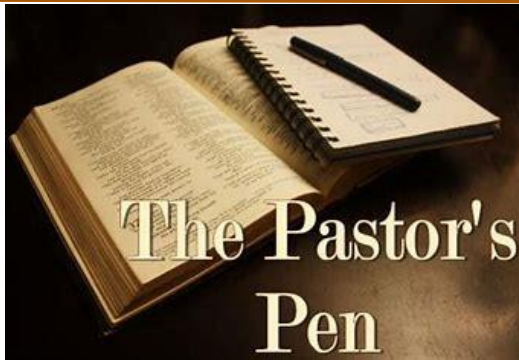
let us acknowledge the many blessings which are ours... let us think of our families and friends.. and let us give thanks in our hearts.

*Author Unknown*

***In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.***  
***1 Thessalonians 5:18***

### Inside This Issue:

19The Pastor's Pen	2
Think on these things...	3
Thinking Out Loud	4
Health and Wellness	5
Support Ou Day Care	7
Sick and Shut-in Members	8
Children and Youth Worship	9
Sunday is for Everyone	10
Foreign Mission	11
Baptism	12
Brenda's Brown Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Annual "Sistah Strut"	13
FBCF Generations	15
White-Out Sunday	19
Mark Your Calendar	26



Dear Beloved Congregation,

It is with great joy and gratitude that I write to you as we prepare to celebrate a significant milestone in our church's history: our 118th Anniversary! This occasion is not just a celebration of the years we've been together, but a testament to the faith, dedication, and love that have sustained our community through time.

As we step into the month of November, I am excited to announce our theme: "I Love My Church." This theme invites us to reflect on the incredible community we have built together, the love we share, and the faith that strengthens our bonds.

Throughout this month, we will focus on the importance of our church as a place of worship, support, and fellowship. We will explore what it means to actively love our church through service, participation, and commitment. Each week, we will have special events, discussions, and activities that emphasize our love for our church and each other.

Let us take this opportunity to express gratitude for the blessings our church brings into our lives. Together, we can deepen our connections, strengthen our faith, and celebrate the unique ways we contribute to our shared mission.

As we look back on nearly a century and a score of years, we remember the countless lives that have been touched, the friendships formed, and the unwavering spirit of service that has defined our church. We are a testament to God's faithfulness and the strength of our shared mission.

To commemorate this special anniversary, we have planned a series of events throughout the month. These will include:

**Anniversary Worship Service:** Join us for a special service filled with inspiring messages from new community pastor Rev. Eric Wilson Antioch Baptist Church, Special music from our outstanding choir, and reflections on our journey.

**Soul Food Celebration:** A gathering for all members and friends, featuring food that will help provide a rich fellowship as we reflect on the history of the church, and bright future.

**Memory Sharing:** We invite you to share your stories and memories about the love that we have for our church, which will be passionate videos about meaningful membership.

I encourage each of you to participate actively in these events and to invite your family and friends to join us in this celebration. Let us come together to honor our past, embrace our present, and look forward to the future God has in store for us.

Thank you for being an essential part of our church family. Your love, support, and faith make a difference every day.



**REV. VICTOR SINCLAIR LEWIS, SR.,  
PASTOR, TEACHER**

## THINK ON THESE THINGS...

### Bounty of thanks



We thank thee, Lord, for the glory of the late days and the excellent face of thy sun. We thank thee for good news received. We thank thee for

the pleasures we have enjoyed and for those we have been able to confer.

And now, when the clouds gather and the rain impends over the forest and our house, permit us not to be cast down; let us not lose the savor of past mercies and past pleasures; but, like the voice of a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memory survive in the hour of darkness. If there be in front of us any painful duty, strengthen us with the grace of courage; if any act of mercy, teach us tenderness and patience.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

### Grateful for grace

In this oneness, Jesus Christ is the Mediator, the Reconciler, between God and man. Thus he comes forward to man on behalf of God, calling for and awakening faith, love and hope, and to God on behalf of man, representing man, making satisfaction and interceding. Thus he attests and guarantees to God's free grace and at the same time attests and guarantees to God man's free gratitude.

—Karl Barth, *The Humanity of God*

### Ascending thanks

Thy mighty hand o'er all the land hath still been open to bestow those blessings which our wants demand from heaven, whence all blessings flow.

Thou hast, with ever watchful eye, looked down on us with holy care, and from thy storehouse in the sky hast scattered plenty everywhere.

Then lift we up our songs of praise to thee, O Father, good and kind; to thee we consecrate our days; be thine the temple of each mind.

With incense sweet our thanks ascend; before thy works our powers fall; though we should strive years without end, we could not thank thee for them all.

—Excerpts from "A Thanksgiving Poem," Paul Laurence Dunbar

# THINKING OUT LOUD

## YOUR Vote Matters

**“When you vote, you get victory over the enemy!”**

By the time you read this article, the November elections will be just days away. You will have the opportunity to vote for the next President of the United States of America. Your vote may make history, as you may participate in electing the first Black woman President.

In 2016, 57.2 million Americans voted early in person, by mail order or absentee ballot. It is estimated that 65% of the U.S. population will vote early in this election.

The battleground states were: Arizona, Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Ohio. According to Pew Research Center, in every state the number of non-Hispanic, White eligible Voters declined between the years 2000 and 2018. But in 2024, it is estimated that 19% of black male voters are leaning toward a white male, Donald Trump. In an interview, some men claimed that Trump resonated more in line with their needs than Mrs. Harris.

Many of these black men claimed that Trump gave everybody a stimulus check, that the price of oil came down under his administration and that more black men had **“good paying jobs.”** While Black voters have traditionally voted democratic, it has been said that at least 9% of Black voters have moved toward voting Republican.

Since 2018, the eligible voter population for Hispanics was 29,831,000 while Blacks was 29,210,000. Thus changing the growth and outcome of the electoral votes.

Just recently, someone reported that the U.S. may be about to elect a fascist as president. Now you know that would be a terrible mistake. You know what a fascist is. The definition describes him as a person who is a far right authoritarian with ultranationalist political ideology, characterized by a dictatorial leadership. Think about it. Do you want a leader like this over your government?

While Christians have come under severe persecution for taking a political stand against people with bad ideas about leadership, we must continue to trust GOD in all things and do our best to support honorable leaders over us. However, we must not allow anyone to move us away from our faith stand

for Christ.

Here are six areas that are critical to the integrity of the entire democratic system in the U.S.

- The issue of honoring the second amendment. The right to bear arms.
- The 1973 decree that issued a woman’s right to have an abortion. **(Roe v. Wade)**
- The reversal of forcing businesses to honor the LGBTQ movement.
- The dissolution of the death penalty.
- Affordable Health Care Act – President Obama got it passed, under this Act more than 20 million people now have access to health care.
- The stacking of justices for the Supreme Court.

There has been a lot of talk about these six areas, and many people have gotten angrier at their senators who won’t receive phone calls from them, nor address these issues on the floor.

What is it that GOD requires from us? We should read **Micah 6: 6-8**. **“What is it that the LORD requires of you? But to do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your GOD.”** Voting is serious. We need to be careful about who we support and why we support them. Look at the issues carefully. Don’t let anyone tell you what **to THINK, only what to THINK ABOUT!**

There are three ways we ought to analyze how we determine the best candidate to get our vote:

1. Do the candidate and I have more in common than we disagree on?
2. Is the candidate honest and trustworthy?
3. Can I live with the choice I make at the Polls?

Vote your own convictions, but do VOTE. One vote can make a difference. **But remember, when you vote for the lesser of two evils, what you still get is evil! Be Blessed!**

November 2024

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

\*Data taken from website for  
Pew Research Center





## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

### November is Diabetes Awareness Month

Diabetes is one of the leading causes of disability and death in the United States.

One in 10 Americans have diabetes — that's more than 30 million people. And another 84 million adults in the United States are at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes.



Depending on your age, weight, and other factors, you may be at higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes. The good news is that making healthy changes can greatly lower your risk.

To help prevent type 2 diabetes and control your diabetes:

#### **Watch your weight**

To stay at a healthy weight, balance the calories you eat and drink with the calories you burn (use up). Calories are a measure of the energy in the foods you eat. To lose weight, you need to burn more calories than you eat.

A healthy diet and physical activity can help you control your weight. You burn more calories when you are physically active.

#### **Eat healthy**

Eating healthy means following a healthy eating pattern that includes a variety of nutritious foods and drinks. It also means getting the number of calories that's right for you (not eating too much or too little).

Use your calories to eat a variety of healthy foods.

To eat healthy, be sure to choose:

Vegetables

Fruits

Whole grains

Fat-free or low-fat dairy products  
A variety of foods with protein, including seafood, lean meats and poultry, eggs, beans, peas, nuts, seeds, and soy products

Limit certain nutrients and ingredients.

Sodium (salt) - Sodium is found in table salt – but most of the sodium we eat comes from packaged food or food that's prepared in restaurants.

Added sugars - Added sugars include syrups and sweeteners that manufacturers add to products like sodas, yogurt, and cereals — as well as things you add, like sugar in your coffee.

Saturated fats - Saturated fats come from animal products like cheese, fatty meats and poultry, whole milk, butter, and many sweets and snack foods. Some plant products like palm and coconut oils also have saturated fats.

Refined grains and starches - Refined grains and starches are in foods like cookies, white bread, and some snack foods.

#### **Get more physical activity**

Regular physical activity is good for every-

(Continued on next page)

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS (continued)

one's health! Physical activity is anything that gets your body moving.

Aim for at least 2 hours and 30 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity each week.

And at least 2 days a week, do activities that strengthen your muscles.

If you haven't been active before, start slowly.

Even 5 minutes of physical activity has real health benefits! Once you get the hang of it, add a little more activity each time.

What kinds of activity should I do?

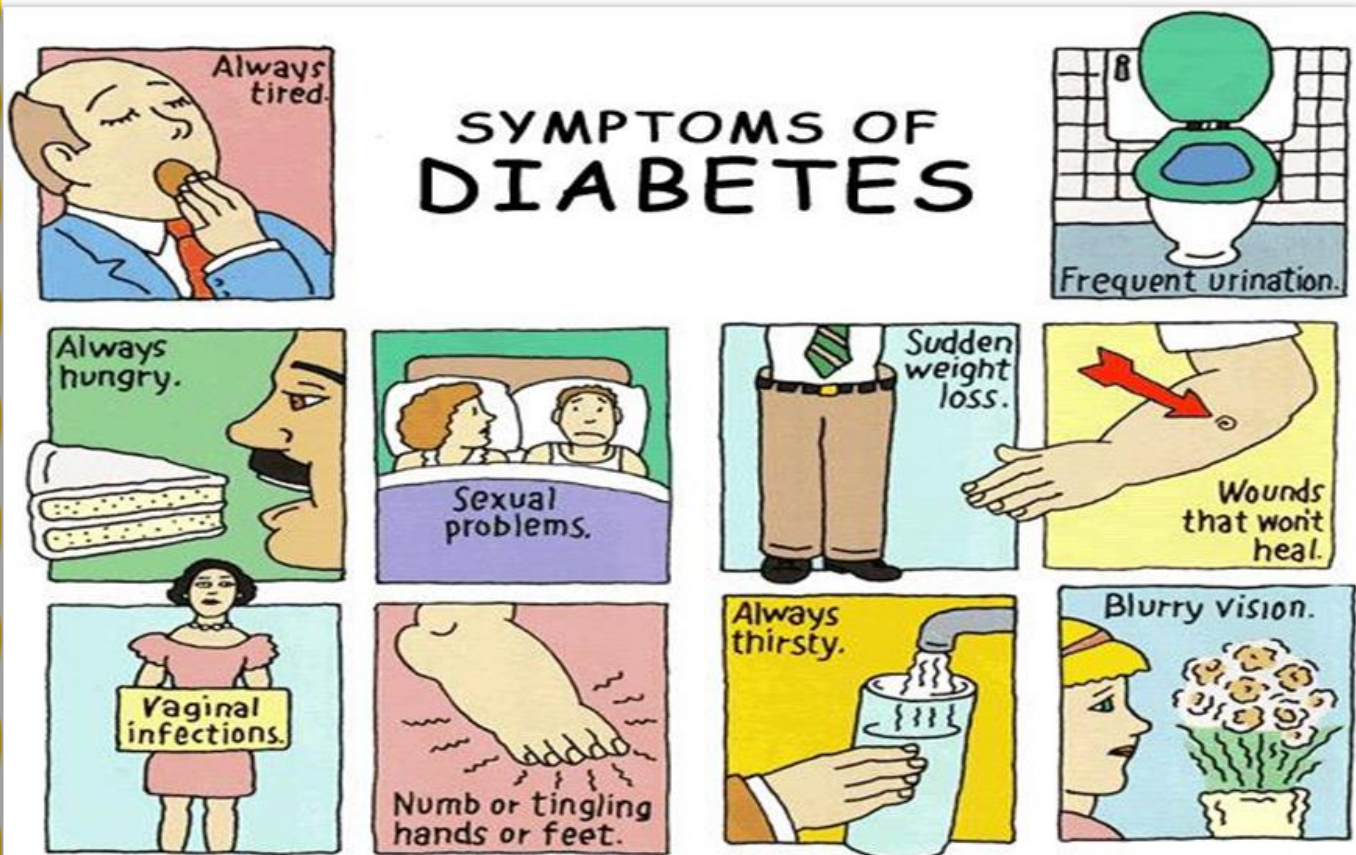
To get all the health benefits of physical activity, do a combination of aerobic

and muscle-strengthening activities.

✦ Aerobic activities make you breathe harder and cause your heart to beat faster. Walking fast is an example of aerobic activity.

Muscle-strengthening activities make your muscles stronger. Examples include lifting weights, using resistance bands, and doing push-ups.

Submitted by Maxine Starks



# SUPPORT OUR DAYCARE



First Baptist Church Fairfield

# 2024 Daycare

## Christmas Fundraiser

October 13th- November 17th

Accepting Cash Or Check

See Daycare  
Representative For  
Details



Submitted by Cynthia Ryce



## SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FAIRFIELD

Sick Or Shut In List - November 2024

**Sis. Hattie Aikerson**  
5295 Cedar Creek Drive  
Bessemer, AL 35022

**Sis. Eunice Barnes**  
7309 Earlwood Drive  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Sis. Martha Bennett**  
732 60th Street  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Sis. Eloise Bunkley**  
2215 Broughton Sprgs Rd.  
Southside, AL 35907

**Sis. Kimberly Caldwell**  
2752 20th Place Ensley  
Birmingham, AL 35208

**Sis. Virginia Chandle**  
2325 15th Street West Ensley  
Birmingham, AL 35208

**Sis. LaSondra Chavers**  
Town Village Vestavia Hills  
Room 205 W  
2385 Dolly Ridge Road  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

**Bro. Erskine Copeland**  
49 Freda Jane Lane  
Birmingham, AL 35215

**Sis. LaTonya Cox**  
P. O. Box 734  
McCalla, AL 35111

**Sis. Dorothy Delaine**  
5601 Court I  
Birmingham, AL 35208

**Sis. Alquina Dickey**  
1400 Lexington St.  
Birmingham, AL 35224

**Sis. Dorothy Dickey**  
1400 Lexington St.  
Birmingham, AL 35224

**Bro. William Evans**  
312 59th Street  
Fairfield AL 35064

**Sis. Essie Flanagan**  
724 Vaughn Circle  
Birmingham, AL 35235

**Sis. Eunice Goldsmith**  
101—57th Street  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Sis. Bama S. Gray**  
528 53rd Street  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Sis. Gracie M. Guerry**  
Cherry Hill Healthcare Ctr.  
1250 Jeff Germany Pkwy  
Birmingham, AL 35214

**Sis. Vertis K. Jimerson**  
281 Forest Road  
Hueytown, AL 35023

**Sis. Lillian Jones**  
1363 Rock Creek Lane  
Pleasant Grove, AL 35127

**Sis. Carlean McClure**  
837 60th Street  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Sis. Elaine Meeks**  
321 Jerry D. Coleman St.  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Bro. Henry Moton**  
2801 Snavelly Avenue SW  
Birmingham, AL 35211

**Sis. Mary Ravizee**  
609 Jerry D. Coleman St.  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Bro. Elliott Ryce, Sr.**  
500 10th Street, Pratt City  
Birmingham, AL 35214

**Sis. Lois Scott**  
841 60th Street  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Sis. Eva Turner**  
501 54th Street  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Sis. Flora L. Waller**  
5725 Marchester Circle  
Pinson, AL 35216

**Rev. Alex Washington**  
7405 White Oak Road  
Fairfield, AL 35064

**Sis. Katie Lee Watts**  
241 Nabir Court  
Tracy, CA 95377



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY



### GREAT BIG THANK YOU

Thanksgiving is a time to stop and think about all the blessings we have received and thank God for all he provided. We have so much to thank God for; we should GO BIG with our praise and thanks – and not just save it for one day a year.

Join us on the 1st Sunday in November at 10:00 a.m. for Children and Youth Church in the Fellowship Hall. Our children and youth will be separated into age groups during the bible lesson period as follows:

5 and under	Beginners
9-11	Juniors
12-14	Intermediates
15 and older	Seniors

November's Schedule is listed below:

1st Sunday - Children and Youth Church

**2nd Sunday - Angelics and Ambassadors Worship Through Song**

**3rd Sunday - Church Anniversary (Chuck Nevelt Usher Board serves)**

**4th Sunday - Thanksgiving Worship (Youth Usher Board serves)**

Sis. Lori Ryce-McCray

Children and Youth Church Coordinator

Church Motto: Hearing, Heeding, and Heralding the Word of God.

John 10:27

## SUNDAY SCHOOL IS FOR EVERYONE



A time of learning is not only educational, but it can be rewarding too.

The Pastor has asked each one of us to become involved with a ministry. Sunday School is a ministry in which all of us should be a part. In Sunday school you learn these three things:

God's Word  
How to apply His Word  
How to spread His Word

Class time begins at 9:00 a.m. Classes are as follows:

Children and Youth      Sis. Joyce Miller  
(Downstairs)

Robert Turner Memorial      Bro. Percy Cain  
(Downstairs)

Leslie Morrow      Sis. Helen Smith  
(Downstairs)

C.G. Johnson  
(Downstairs)

Young Adults  
(Choir stand)

Covenant Keepers  
(Sanctuary)

Good News  
(Sanctuary)

M.,A, Waters  
(Sanctuary)

Martin Luther King  
(Downstairs)

Trusting in God through His Word is not only enriching, it is also rewarding!

***Come Join a class Sunday!***

Sis. Joyce Lloyd

Bro. Jason Anderson

Bro. Patrick Lacey

Rev. Larry Robbins

Sis, Maxine Starks

Bro. Curly Steele

***“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.      2 Timothy 2:15 KJV***

## FOREIGN MISSION

National Baptist USA Incorporated

2024

First Baptist Church, Fairfield

Sis. Helen P. Smith, Chairman Foreign  
Mission Board



The National Baptist USA, INC. serves eight African countries and three Islands. Foreign Mission is still a priority at our Church. Our focus today is on the country of Swaziland.

Swaziland, formerly known as Eswatini, has a history that dates back to the “Stone Age period.” The Swazis first settled north of the Pongola River. During the early 1900’s eight British colonies established there shortly after defeating forces from the Boer War.

Around 1986, the establishment of a Monarchy took place. Mswati is the Monarch who rules along with Queen Ntombi. The economy is not stable. They get 90% of all imports from South Africa.

Bantu is the native language spoken there by 90% of the people, while both SiSwati and

English are the two official languages. They are mainly Christians. About 89% Christian, and about 7.4% have no religion, and around 0.5% practice a traditional faith.

Be sure you continue to **support Foreign Mission with your donations in 2024. Our goal is to raise \$10,000. We can do that by each member simply donating \$25.00 every fifth Sunday.** By the end of the year, you will have donated \$100.00. We can do this. Let’s continue to give.



# BAPTISM-SUNDAY OCTOBER 6, 2024



INDIA WILLIS



SHANTRICE DICKEY



SYHX RAINÉ ELLISON

## “SISTAH STRUT”

First Baptist Church Helped Shine The Light On Breast Cancer Awareness by Supporting Brenda’s Brown Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Annual “Sistah Strut”

Brenda's Brown Bosom Buddies, in association with the City of Birmingham and Jefferson County Commission, presented Sistah Strut on Saturday, September 28, 2024, at the Historic Legion Field.

The First Baptist Church Family serves as a donor in this worthwhile event. This was our way of coming together with kindred spirits to share our life experiences and to gather with like minds to address the needs of our community regarding Breast Cancer. There are runs and walks, but everyone knows that "Sistahs" strut! Sistahs are not defined by race, ethnicity, or gender - it's about spirit, attitude, and

intent. The aim is to bring Breast Cancer Awareness and Early Detection to the attention of our community. The weather was challenging, but we made it through. The participation was great; thanks to the leadership of Pastor Victor Lewis, we continued for a second year by donating our time as well as our resources.

Thank you to Ida Biffle, who served as a Team Captain and Coordinator. At the Sistah Strut event, we came together to celebrate the strength and resilience of breast cancer survivors. You are not victims; you are victors! Let's 'Move On,' - 'Get On,'—and 'Live On' together as a community united in hope and support and in our shared mission to raise awareness and support for breast cancer.

Cynthia Dickey Morton





# “SISTAH STRUT”





# FBCF GENERATIONS





# FBCF GENERATIONS





# FBCF GENERATIONS





# FBCF GENERATIONS



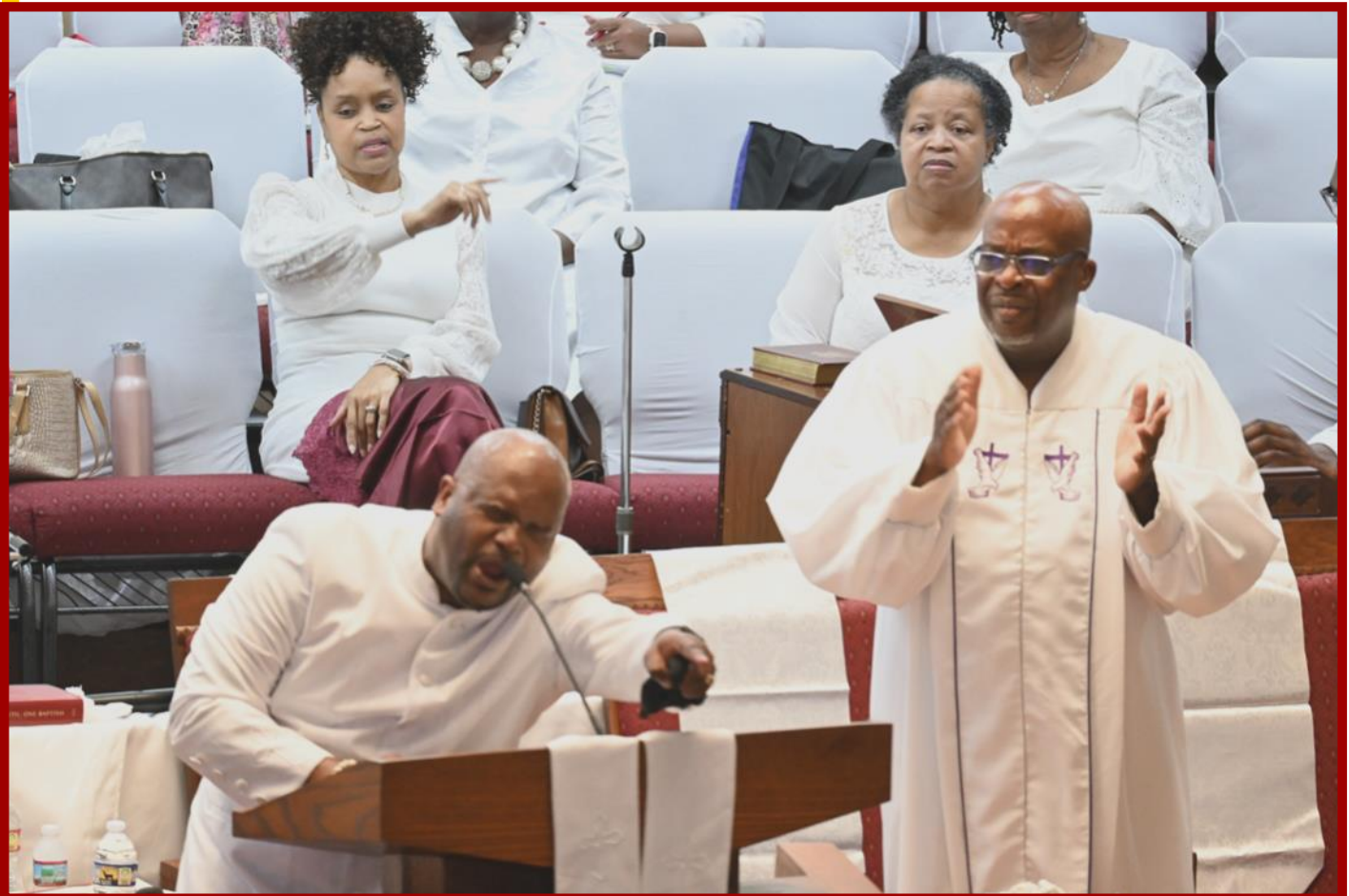


# WHITE - OUT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024





# WHITE - OUT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024





# WHITE - OUT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024



# WHITE - OUT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024





# WHITE - OUT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024





# WHITE - OUT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024





# WHITE - OUT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## WEEKLY

- Sunday (s)**     **9:00am Sunday School (In person)**  
**10:00am Morning Worship (in person and Facebook Live, YouTube)**  
**10:am Children's Worship– 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th**
- Monday (s)**     **6:00 pm Laymen's Study Conference Call**  
**1-425-436-6349**  
**Access Code 788-1875**
- Wednesday (s)**     **Bible Study (551) 258 -6609. No access code.**  
**6:00 pm**
- Thursday (s)**     **Prayer Ministry Conference Call**  
**6:15 pm. 1 978 990 5000 Access Code 297873**



## November

- 3**     **Baptism and Lord's Supper 8:00a**  
**I Love My Church Emphasis Begins**
- 6**     **Wednesday Night Live**  
**Dinner served at 5:30 pm**  
**Classes begin at 6:30 pm**
- 10**     **New Mt. Moriah MBC Pastor Anniversary (Rev. Mike Jones) Church Invitation - 5978 Anglewood Lane, Calera, 35040**
- 11-14**     **Alabama Baptist State Convention - Huntsville - Pine Grove MBC, 759 Grove Road, Harvest, AL.**
- 17**     **118th Church Anniversary Celebration - Rev. Eric Wilson & Antioch MBC Church, Fairfield Guests**
- 28**     **Church Office closed**
- 29**     **Church Office closed**

### The Chronicle

is published monthly by

### First Baptist Church

324 59th Street  
 Fairfield, Alabama 35064  
 (205) 785-4143

### Deadline for copy:

The 15th of each month prior to the edition in which the article will appear. For example, articles for October should be submitted by September 15. Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## WEEKLY

- Sunday (s)**      **9:00am** Sunday School (In person)  
**10:00am** Morning Worship (in person and Facebook Live, YouTube)  
**10:am** Children's Worship– 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th
- Monday (s)**      **6:00 pm** Laymen's Study Conference Call  
 1-425-436-6349  
 Access Code 788-1875
- Wednesday (s)**    **Bible Study (551) 258 -6609. No access code.**  
**6:00 pm**
- Thursday (s)**      **Prayer Ministry Conference Call**  
**6:15 pm. 1 978 990 5000 Access Code 297873**



## December

- 1**      **Baptism and Lord's Supper**
- 4**      **Wednesday Night LIVE (Refreshments at 5:30 PM and Classes 6:30 PM)**
- 9**      **Church December Conference - Pastor's Recommendations for 2025, Ministry Leaders Appointments, and Proposed 2025 Budget**
- 15**      **Sunday School Christmas Program**
- 24-25**      **Church Closed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day**
- 31**      **New Year's Eve Service - 5:00 PM**

### The Chronicle

is published monthly by

### First Baptist Church

324 59th Street  
 Fairfield, Alabama 35064  
 (205) 785-4143

### Deadline for copy:

The 15th of each month prior to the edition in which the article will appear. For example, articles for October should be submitted by September 15. Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

# PUZZLE THANKS-FILLED GIVING

The virtues of gratefulness and generosity are connected. When we're truly thankful for all God provides, we want to sow generous seeds in other people's lives. What will be the harvest?

Directions: Solve the clues associated with each picture. Then write the words in the correct spaces to complete 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, NIV.

-  This becomes a plant. .... 
-  Willing to give. ....
-  The result of planting seeds. ....
-  The act of gratitude. ....
-  Food made from wheat. ....

Now he who supplies  to the sower and  for food will also supply and increase your store of  and will enlarge the  of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be  on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in  to God. 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, NIV

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

324 59th Street  
Fairfield Ala 35064

Phone: 205 785 4143  
Fax: 205 785 8900  
E-mail: FBCFairfield59@att.net

**CHURCH THEME:**  
**“GROWING TOGETHER”**  
**JOHN 15: 1-5**

