



Messenger

Followers of Christ sharing God's love and grace with all.

August 6, 2020

JOIN US FOR MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, August 9, 2020

“Jesus is the Water Walker”

Matthew 14:22-33

Sundays at 10:50 AM in the Sanctuary and Live on Facebook

Services plan to be uploaded on YouTube by Mondays at 3:00 PM

FROM THE PASTOR

Eugene Peterson was a pastor out west for most of his life, but his writing abound all over. Unfortunately, he passed last year. I don't know if I tell it just as Peterson did, but he had reached a stage in his ministry when he had learned to briefly summarize his hopes for his ministry as a pastor. Three things had become a priority for him in his service as a pastor.

He wanted people to know he was a person of prayer who wanted to lead others to pray. Peterson was a student of the Bible and he wanted to be a resource from which people could learn about the Bible. Peterson also wanted people to know he had time to listen. He believed deeply in the grace of listening.

When reading Peterson's words several years ago I realized how much I felt the same way. Prayer, the Bible and listening are so central to who I am.

I never flaunt my prayer experiences. I don't talk about them a great deal. To talk about it too much destroys the holiness of the prayerful experience. Often there are not adequate words to talk about what happens. At the same time, prayer is one of the greater blessings of a seasoned faith. Sitting in the presence of God is a phenomenal experience. I want all of us to continue to learn this together!

I love to study the Bible. I am yet moved to tears, excitement, joy, humility, ... when reading, listening and studying with the many students of scripture that reside on my book shelves and across the network of internet connections. “These are not books, lumps of lifeless paper, but minds alive on the shelf,” reads a quote that hangs on my bookshelves. Similarly, I want to be a live resource to teach people about the Bible.

And I want people to know I have time, will take time, to listen. The place between two people filled with conversation is holy ground. I will listen and make time to listen. Conversations are so significant to life, the abundant life.

So continue to join me as we talk, learn and pray together – connecting and serving and belonging.

*Grace and Peace,
Craig*

Youth and Children's Ministry

As a new school year approaches, I want to share some of the mission's projects I have been able to participate in during my time here to welcome the school year. I have been able to gather every year with other youth pastors in the area and pray for all the schools during teacher orientation, as well as helping deliver donuts and coffee along with the mission committee. This school year is much different in light of COVID- 19 and social distancing. FCA asked local pastors if we would participate in a 24-hour prayer for our schools on August 5 – 6 at our churches, offices, and homes. I naturally volunteered Pastor Craig and myself up for prayer in the morning block.

Although I'm committed to praying, it didn't feel the same from the office or even in the church sanctuary. I missed being on campus with other brothers and sisters in Christ, so I decided to drive to every school parking lot and pray. I wanted everything to be back to normal or resemble my time with the other youth pastors. However, as I sat in the car, I realized that this school year our teachers, administration, coaches, parents, and students need more than 24 hours of prayer. School staff and coaches have to make decisions they have never had to before; parents have to choose between in-person school or online as well as maybe deal with their children's unhappiness with the choice they made.

Then, the students themselves who not only have to deal with issues of school but also the unknowing of what their senior year might entail. Will we be like the seniors from the last year.... No to a season in sports, graduation, prom, homecoming, etc.... The things that they look forward to outside of education. Our school systems this year need prayer and support like never before, and I am asking you for your help. Will you help in praying for our schools this year as they start this month? I believe as the body of Christ we need to surround the schools in prayer, not just for 24 hours, but the entire school year and every year.

Numbers 6:24 -26

[May] The Lord bless you and keep you the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

God Bless,
Rev Jacob Roberts



Stepping Stones Ministry

Stepping Stones Learning Center



Stepping Stones Learning Center received their first "Virtual" state visit since reopening June 1st.

Stepping Stones is happy to report that we received 100% compliance in all areas during our state inspection!!!

Our staff continues to give 110% every day to our awesome ministry at Stepping Stones Learning Center.

We couldn't be more proud of the awesome job they are doing for our children and community. Please be sure to give them an air hug or fist bump the next time you see them.

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:50 am Morning Worship	3	4	5 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study	6	7	8
9 8:30 am Deacon's Meeting 10:50 am Morning Worship	10	11 10:00 am Missions Committee	12 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study	13	14 Gatewood School begins	15
16 10:50 am Morning Worship	17	18	19 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study	20	21	22
23/30 10:50 am Morning Worship	24 Putnam County Charter School System begins	25	26 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study	27	28	29

Financial Report

Weeks of July 19 and July 26

Budget Needs	18,790.00
Budget Receipts	18,429.00
Budget Needs YTD	281,850.00
Budget Receipts YTD	286,233.31

WORSHIP REPORT

Sunday, July 19	81
Sunday, July 26	84
Sunday, August 2	80

THANK YOU

Thank you so very much for your thoughtful and generous love offering given to me. I was surprised and humbled by the recognition. I am blessed to be able to serve the Lord and First Baptist Church of Eatonton

-Charles Patten

FLOWERS

Flowers were placed in the sanctuary on July 26 by Gary McElhenney in loving memory of Lillian and Hughlon McElhenney on their birthdays by their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Flowers are placed in the sanctuary on August 9 in honor of Sonny and Janice Turner on their 50th wedding anniversary by their children, Kelley, Emily and Molly.

First Baptist Church
P. O. Box 3400
Eatonton, GA 31024
Return Service Requested

"The FBC Messenger will be emailed the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. It will continue to be mailed as formerly done to any who do not receive email, and to any who request a print copy."

DEACON'S MEETING
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH
8:30 A.M.
CHOIR SUITE

CONNECT WITH US



**Operation Christmas Child
Yearly Gift Ideas**

MISSIONS | highlight



Ways to Give



In Person During Worship Mail Online



School Supplies
August