

## Birthdays

October 10 Joe Jackson

## Anniversaries

October 6 Mr. & Mrs. Bucky Adkins

## Serving Our Church This Sunday

### Ushers

*(Ushers, please arrive 20 minutes before service)*

Chuck Austin, Tony Bragg, Mike Durkin,  
J. D. Dyches, Joe Jackson, Crawford Leonard,  
Terry Nappier, Larry Olliff, Jay Walea

### Counters

David Traywick, Chmn., Ed Schaffer,  
Tommy Triplett, David Williford

## Poinsettia Order

You have the opportunity to be a part of decorating our sanctuary for Christmas by purchasing poinsettias. The cost of the poinsettias is \$11.00 each and you may order as many as you wish. Just fill in the form below and drop in the offering plate or turn in to the church office with your payment. The poinsettias will decorate our sanctuary from December 6<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for placing your order is Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I will buy \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias at \$11.00 each

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my Poinsettia after the morning service on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will leave my Poinsettia to be given to a shut-in.



## OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

*Welcome!*

**Sunday, October 4**  
11:00am Morning Worship  
(in-person or at [fbcgc.live](http://fbcgc.live))  
6:00pm Deacons Meeting



### VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday .....\$6,359.97  
Budget Gifts to Date .....\$27,646.97

### ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday 11am and Wednesday 7pm

Join us at [fbcgc.live](http://fbcgc.live)

### Past Services

\*You can now go to the website ([fbcgc.net](http://fbcgc.net)) and watch previous services under the **WORSHIP SERVICES** tab

### Online Giving

\*You can now give online by going to the website ([fbcgc.net](http://fbcgc.net)) and clicking on the **ONLINE GIVING** tab or **Text** the Amount You Want to Give to 84321

### REBUILD SERIES:

#### Lessons from the Book of Nehemiah

- Sunday, Oct 4 - Interrupted by Conflict
- Sunday, Oct 11 - Living with Limitations
- Sunday, Oct 18 - Drawing a Conclusion
- Sunday, Oct 25 - Studying the Results



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Closed on Fridays

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Tommy Duke—Pastor  
Randall Frantz—Minister of Ed/Youth  
Debbie Traywick—Director of Music

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## WHAT'S MY IDENTITY?

This past Sunday's installment of our *REBUILD* teaching series was about "Unifying our Diversity," and how God uses all the diversity of His creation to impact the world and bring glory to Himself.

Scripture shows us that God created one race – the human race – in His own image (Genesis 1:26) and that all nations on earth have the same origin (Acts 17:26). So, regardless of the various differences and unique identifiers we have for ourselves and one another, we're ALL part of the same human race that God created.

Furthermore, while all of us suffer the same terminal condition called SIN, or missing God's mark (Romans 3:23), and deserve eternal punishment for it, His great gift to us is salvation in Jesus Christ (Romans 6:23). And in Christ, not only are we saved, but we become a *new creation*:

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."* – 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

Since we have been "re-created" in Christ, we are to live by a different set of priorities (Matthew 6:33). These new priorities should inform how we identify ourselves (as followers of Christ) and how we treat others (with love, regardless of the situation; see Matthew 5:43-48). In fact, *love is to be the primary characteristic that identifies us as Christians* (John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13:13).

As we seek to live this new life in Christ, we're repeatedly shown in the New Testament that, while there is much diversity in the Church, there are to be no divisions among us (Galatians 3:27-28; Colossians 3:9-11; 1 Corinthians 1:10).

Even more than just *not* being divided, scripture demonstrates in the early church and instructs us that it is within that diversity (of spiritual gifts, passions, abilities, personalities, experiences, etc.) that we can *unite together in Christ* for even greater impact for God's Kingdom. This unity in diversity is what makes the Church unique in the world (1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 12:4-6).

In many ways, for the global Church (and our specific local church) to function properly, we each have to examine how we identify ourselves... First and foremost, am I a [insert race, ethnicity, political party, vocation, social status, or any other identifier] *OR* am I a follower of Jesus? If Jesus takes priority, then all other distinctions come after Him.

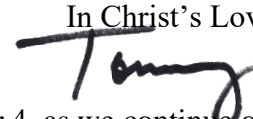
**It's only when we choose to claim our identity "in Christ" that we can truly live our lives as He calls us to live.**

This shift will transform how we relate to people of all different groups, and enable us to see people as God sees them:

- Christ followers: who He sees as sons and daughters via the blood of Jesus (John 1:12)
- Not yet Christ followers: who He sees with compassion, as sheep without a Shepherd (Matthew 9:36)

I'm praying for me and you to see people this week with God's Kingdom eyes...

In Christ's Love,



P.S. Join us this Sunday, October 4, as we continue our *REBUILD* series and see how to stay productive in the face of conflict. You're invited – Sunday at 11:00am, either In-Person or at [FBCGC.live](http://FBCGC.live).

## SYMPATHY

As a church family, we express our deepest Christian sympathy:

- ❖ To the family of Mrs. Evone Rogers who went to be with the Lord on Sunday.
- ❖ To Mary Becton, Ann Britton & Patsy Burkhalter and their families in the loss of their brother-in-law Randy Smith who passed away last week.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO REACH OUT

### *Trunk or Treat*

We will need lots of help this year as we make plans to make this event as safe as possible for everyone.

We will need a lot of people to host cars. We will also need volunteers to help greet and give instructions to help everyone have a good time and try to keep everyone safe. And as always we will need lots of candy.

### **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**

**Chili Supper & Packing the Boxes** will take place on Sunday, October 18 so please mark your calendar.



More details to come. It will be a little different this year as we make precautions to make it as safe as possible. Reminder: Postage is \$9.00 per box and we are accepting donations now as well as the night of the Chili Supper.

\*Children, look in your packets this week for the coloring sheets we send in the boxes. Please color, fill out & turn back in.