

Birthdays

November 22	Kyle French
November 25	Colt Tootle
November 27	Carlyle Clifton
November 27	Kathy Riley

Anniversaries

November 23	Mr. & Mrs. Doug Burkhalter
November 27	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Britton

Serving Our Church This Sunday

Ushers

(Ushers, please arrive 20 minutes before service)

Steve Britton, Gerald Ethridge,
Chris Long, Rob Mucha, Warren Oglesby,
Robert Riley, Ed Schaffer, A. J. Tovar,
Luis Tovar, Tommy Triplett

Counters

David Traywick, Chairman
Ed Schaffer, Tommy Triplett,
David Williford

Thanks-Living:

The Power of a Grateful Life

The most powerful two words in the English language are “Thank You.” In this brand-new teaching series, we will discover how learning to be thankful every day leads to greater fulfillment, joy, peace and a deeper connection with God.

- Sunday, November 22:
Unleashing A Life of Gratitude
- Sunday, November 29:
Thank You!



OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Welcome!

Sunday, November 18
11:00am Morning Worship
(in-person or at FBCGC.live)

10:00am

Sunday School Fall Groups



VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday	\$6,830.50
Budget Gifts to Date	\$21,461.50

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES

Online Giving

*You can now give online by going to the website (fbcgc.net) and clicking on the **ONLINE GIVING** tab

or **Text** the Amount You Want to Give to 84321

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

We will begin to collect an offering to support our IMB resources for the missionaries abroad. Starting in December there will be offering envelopes for you to use in helping with the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.



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Office Hours: 10:00am to 2:00pm Monday - Thursday
Closed on Fridays

Vol. 60 No. 44 November 18, 2020

Tommy Duke—Pastor
Randall Prantz—Associate Pastor
Debbie Traywick—Worship Leader

GARDEN CITY BEAMS (USPS 213560) is published weekly, except one week in December, at no charge, by First Baptist Church, 35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408-1748. Periodicals postage paid at Savannah, GA. POSTMASTER: send address changes to GARDEN CITY BEAMS, 35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408-1748. Church phone (912) 964-1448 or 964-0355.

THANKFUL EVEN NOW

We are halfway through our new *Thanks-Living* teaching series and last Sunday we looked at how to be thankful during tough times. If ever we needed help in dealing with tough times, 2020 is the time.

The coronavirus, natural disasters, social unrest, contentious elections, and more have made this one of the most chaotic years we've ever experienced. And that doesn't even include the personal tragedies and difficulties faced by so many on top of all this.

In times like these, it's easy to get frustrated or disillusioned and become overwhelmed by the craziness around us. A natural outcome of being overwhelmed is complaining. As I shared on Sunday, however, *complaining is the enemy of gratefulness*.

Complaining keeps our focus on the problems, while gratefulness focuses our attention on the Savior. Complaining expands our disappointment, while gratefulness builds our contentment. Complaining locks in our unhappiness, while gratefulness points us to the joy of the Lord. Finally, complaining plunges us into the chaos of our circumstances, while gratefulness fills us with the peace that passes understanding.

It really is a matter of where we place our focus in times like these. In spite of everything that *isn't* right in our world today, our *God is still on the throne*. We can be thankful that He is in control (so we don't have to figure it out on our own). As our memory verse this week reminds us, He is the source of our victory:

*"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
1 Corinthians 15:57*

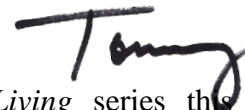
We can be thankful that God's promises are true. God doesn't lie or change His mind, so we can bank on the truth of what His Word says. We can give thanks that God has placed people around us to provide support and encouragement. Lean into your Sunday or weekday group. Be willing to share what you're thinking and feeling and let others walk with you through it – *sharing life together* is a big part of being a follower of Christ.

One of the biggest areas of thankfulness for me is to remember that our Savior has been where I am. There is nothing I experience or feel that Jesus can't understand. Because of His time on earth – tempted and tried like us, but without sin – you and I can go to Jesus with anything and know that He has been here and came through to the other side. I'm thankful that I can trust Jesus with my situation, no matter what.

And finally, we can remain thankful that our ultimate citizenship is in heaven. As followers of Jesus, regardless of how bad things get on earth, the Lord has prepared and secured for us an eternal home that we can only imagine.

Remaining thankful in difficult times is a matter of focus. The natural, human reaction is to focus on all that is wrong in this world. With God's help and our cooperation, the Christian reaction is to raise our focus to His character, His track record, His Kingdom, and His eternal destination for us!

Gratefully Yours,



P.S. We'll continue our *Thanks-Living* series this Sunday, looking at how to unleash a life of gratitude – that's Sunday at 11:00am, and you can join us In-Person or at [FBCGC.live](https://www.fbcgc.live). Hope to see you there!

OPPORTUNITIES TO REACH OUT

New Bible Study Opportunity

Starting December 6th our Sunday School groups will start studying the book of Luke. We will be studying Luke for the next three months. This is a great time to get started in one of these groups. Please contact the church office or sign up through your connection card on Sunday to join.

Randall



Happy Thanksgiving from your church staff. The church office will be closed Nov. 25 thru Nov. 27.