

## Serving Our Church on Sunday

### Ushers

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

### Counters

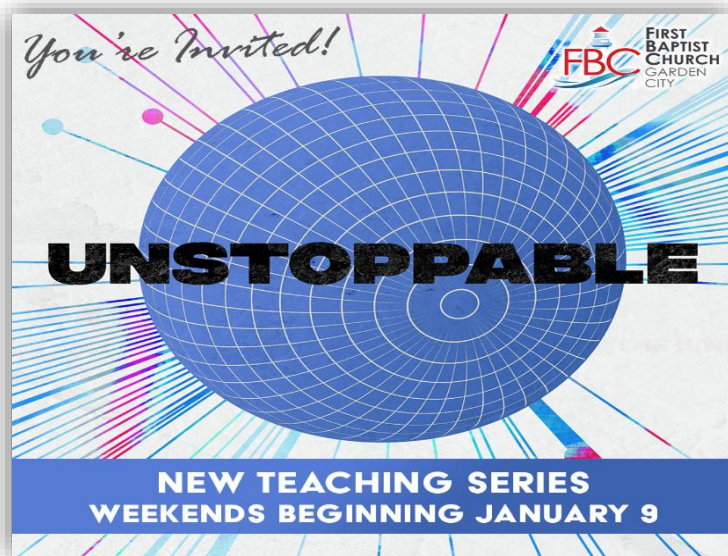
Steve Britton, Co-Chairman  
Larry Olliff, Co-Chairman  
Joe Jackson  
Rob Mucha

### Nursery

Laurann Mucha  
Autumn/Summer Brinson

### Preschool

Tia Quattlebaum



## OPPORTUNITIES

### *You're Invited to Join Us!* Sunday, January 9, 2022

9:30am – Church Library Open

10:00am – Sunday School Groups

11:00am – Morning Worship  
*(In-Person or multiple Saturday & Sunday  
opportunities for Church Online at FBCGC.live)*

6:00pm-Deacons Meeting

### Wednesday, January 12, 2022

10:00am - Senior Adult Bible Study/Lunch

7:00pm – Adult, Youth and Children Bible Studies

### VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday .....\$3,796.00  
Budget Gifts to Date .....\$3,796.00

### MULTIPLE WAYS TO GIVE:

- **In-Person on Sundays**  
You can give using the offering plates at each Sunday service.
- **Online Giving**  
Give easily and securely at any time on our website: [www.FBCGC.net/giving](http://www.FBCGC.net/giving)
- **Text-to-Give**  
Using your smartphone, text the Amount You Want to Give to 84321
- **Mailed-in Giving**  
Mail your gift to the church office at:  
35 Nelson Ave, Garden City, GA 31408



35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408  
912-964-1448 | [office@fbcgc.net](mailto:office@fbcgc.net)  
[www.FBCGC.net](http://www.FBCGC.net)

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

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Tommy Duke—Senior Pastor  
Randall Frantz—Associate Pastor  
Debbie Traywick—Worship Leader

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# NARROWING YOUR FOCUS IN 2022

This past Sunday, I shared a New Year's message about how you and I can increase our spiritual growth and effectiveness this year. Too often, in the excitement and importance of reflecting over last year we attempt to make changes in way too many aspects of our lives, leading to abandoned resolutions and disappointment. Rather than giving in to the temptation to pursue multiple, various goals and resolutions, we instead focused on four questions for 2022 that will narrow your focus.

Jesus was a master at boiling down even the most complex, challenging concepts into simple (but not necessarily easy) instructions. Take for example the conversation He has with a prominent Pharisee in Matthew 22. The Jewish leaders had identified 613 individual laws in the Old Testament that "good Jews" were subject to obey. This Pharisee (a law expert) tried to publicly force Jesus to choose *one* law that was "most important." Jesus cuts right to the chase and points out two laws that every listener would have known (from Deuteronomy and Leviticus, respectively) and explained that *all* of the other 611 laws hinge on those two:

*"Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: "Love your neighbor as yourself." The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."*  
Matthew 22:37-40 (NLT)

In these few words, Jesus takes the vast, complex system of laws and commandments and essentially says, "if you intentionally focus on obeying these two commandments, the others will take care of themselves."

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus expresses a similar idea in our memory verse for this week:

*"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."* - Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

As I was growing up and beginning to make serious life decisions, I would often fall into a malady that my father used to call "the paralysis of analysis." This simply meant that I would evaluate *all* possible directions and outcomes I could imagine and compare pros and cons to the point of frustration and exhaustion – often forcing me to make last minute decisions or just go with whatever option was still available.

This lack of focus limited my ability to do the one thing in front of me well, in a way that honored God. We live in a society where *focus is a lost art*. Large portions of most of our days are spent dealing with distractions – everything from worries, regrets, and negativity to actual tools designed for our distraction (like social media and much of the entertainment industry). Is it any wonder that so many of us feel like we aren't experiencing the abundant life that Jesus promises?

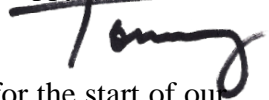
Another new year is here – 2022 (and still no flying cars!) - and along with it another opportunity to refocus and align ourselves with Jesus' instructions. Remember, He doesn't say that other things aren't important... but if we choose to place our primary focus on God's Kingdom and living rightly through Christ, He promises to take care of the rest!

Here are the four questions from this past Sunday to help you narrow your focus and make the most of the time the Lord gives us in 2022:

1. What one thing do I desire from God?
2. What one thing do I lack?
3. What one thing do I need to release?
4. What one promise do I need to claim from God?

As each of us listen to God's leading in these areas and focus our attention and energy on His Kingdom and righteousness, we will see how He provides everything else that we need. That applies to you and me as individual followers of Jesus *and* to our church as a whole. With a revised focus, we'll all be able to better *Love God, Love People, and Light the Way!*

Happy New Year,



P.S. Join us this Sunday, January 9, for the start of our brand-new teaching series, *Unstoppable*. We'll be looking at how we can each embrace this unique way of life we're called to live and by doing so, experience God's best. Join us either In-Person on Sunday at 11:00am or Church Online at [FBCGC.live](https://www.fbcgc.live), (multiple service times). Hope to see you there!

## ***Attention All Senior Adults***

On January 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 am there will be a Bible Study, followed by a lunch outing. Please mark your calendar to make plans to join us.