<u>Celebrating a Birthday</u>

March 29 April 1 Rob Mucha Tony Bragg

Celebrating an Anniversary

March 27

Mr. & Mrs. Warren Oglesby



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

David Traywick & Luis Tovar, Co-Chmn., Ed Schaffer, David Williford

> **Nursery** Mary Kay Schaffer

Preschool

Karen Walea

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: <u>www.FBCGC.net/giving</u>
- **Text-to-Give** Using your smartphone, text the Amount You Want to Give to <u>84321</u>
- Mailed-in Giving Mail your gift to the church office at: 35 Nelson Ave, Garden City, GA 31408

OPPORTUNITIES

You're Invited to Join Us! Sunday, March 27, 2022

9:30am – Breakfast Served

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)

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

 $7{:}00pm-Adult,\,Youth and Children Bible Studies$

VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday	\$15.143.75
Budget Gifts to Date	





GARDEN CITY BEAMS (USPA 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.

ANOTHER LEVEL

As you may have discovered from my all-too-frequent football references, I grew up loving all things sports. If they showed it on ESPN (after we got cable), I was interested. From an early age, I set a goal for myself to play college football, which I deemed to be the "best" sport.

Along the way, I played baseball, basketball, tennis, racquetball, and even had an unfortunate stint on my high school track team. But everyone who knew me recognized that football was my sport.

I showed up for every team opportunity in high school and worked hard to get better. By my junior season, I was beginning to see the fruit of all those years of effort (along with a timely growth spurt). I began to hear from some small colleges who wanted me to come, visit, and consider playing on their football team.

Those first visits and conversations with college coaches proved to be an eye-opener for me. I had done everything that my high school coaches laid out for me to do and felt that I was probably one of the most football-devoted players on our team. However, the players on those college teams were at a different level.

The college players I met were doing everything their coaches asked them to do, then took it upon themselves to do extra workouts, extra running, extra studying of the playbook, and extra film study... every week – inseason and out!

I quickly realized that if I hoped to play at the college level, I was going to need to find a deeper level of devotion to football. The same is true for us as followers of Jesus. There is an "average" level of devotion that most American Christians demonstrate. That level means we have enough devotion to attend church (when it's convenient), pray before meals, participate to a certain extent in other activities, give when we have a little extra, and generally keep up appearances to those around us.

Jesus calls us to a higher level of devotion. In fact, He makes it clear that if we are to truly follow Him, we must give up our own way and carry our cross daily:

"Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he (Jesus) said, 'If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?"" – Mark 8:34-36 (NLT)

It's in this "fully devoted" place that we can truly honor God, point others to Jesus, and experience His best in our lives. As we approach Easter Sunday (less than a month away), is there an area of your life that needs reorienting? Is Jesus calling you to another level of devotion? Know that I'm praying for you, for our church, and for the Lord to use us for His glory!

Devoted to Following Jesus,

P.S. Join us this Sunday as we continue our new *At the Cross*-teaching series, examining lessons from one of Jesus' most devoted servants (Mary Magdalene) who was present at His crucifixion. Join us In-Person on Sunday at 11:00am or Church Online at <u>FBCGC.live</u>, (multiple service times).



March 27: At the Cross... with the Devoted Servant

April 3: At the Cross... with the Heartbroken Mother

"Palm Sunday" April 10: At the Cross... with the Condemned Criminal





Given to date: \$1,269.00

