## Celebrating a Birthday

Gena Clifton May 3 May 4 Joseph Johnson Jason McCullough May 5 Crawford Leonard May 6 May 7 Kay Nappier

## **Celebrating Anniversaries**

Mr. & Mrs. David Williford May 3 May 6 Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Reagan



# Serving Our Church on Sunday **Ushers**

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

## **Counters**

Gerald Ethridge, Chairman Jason McCullough, Chairman Robert Riley, Corley Zittrouer

## Nursery

Patricia Frantz

## **Preschool**

Lisa Bragg



#### **VITAL SIGNS**

Budget Gifts Sunday	\$5,173.00
Budget Gifts to Date	

ANNIE ARMSTRONG

\$2,439.00

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

## You're Invited to Join Us! **Sunday, May 1, 2022**

9:30am – Breakfast Served

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



# **Summer Serving Opportunities**

# **BLOCK PARTY**

June 5 5-7:30pm

# **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

VBS June 12th-15th 5:45-8:40pm

## **VBS** Family Night June 16<sup>th</sup>

6:00pm

You can help FBC Garden City make a difference in the lives of children & families this Summer! Join Pastor Tommy for a brief (15-minute) informational meeting after Worship on Sunday, May 1.

9:30am – Church Library Open

10:00am – Sunday School Groups

6:00pm – Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

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



-Senior Pastor
-Associate Pastor

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

35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408 912-964-1448 | office@fbcgc.net www.FBCGC.net

Vol. 62

April 27, 2022

# **HOME COMING & GOING**

We are in the middle of an exciting season at FBC Garden City – between Easter Sunday, Homecoming, Mother's Day, and Graduate Recognition, every week or two we are marking vitally important moments.

This past weekend, we celebrated our 82<sup>nd</sup> Homecoming as a church and it got me thinking of that term. Many schools have an annual Homecoming, where they invite back former graduates and connect the "past" with the "present." It's also a chance for classmates to reconnect with friends they haven't seen in a while and update one another about their lives.

In church, Homecoming serves a similar purpose. On our church campus this past Sunday, I thoroughly enjoyed watching, speaking with, and catching up with folks we haven't seen in a while. Many were there to help us remember and celebrate those members who went on to be with the Lord over the past year. We heard stories of how God was at work in those people's lives. We remembered the Lord's faithfulness in building His church over all these years and celebrated together that He is still transforming lives!

The Kitchen Committee, along with all of you who brought food to share, made our annual Homecoming meal a feast to remember. Across those plates of chicken, ham, veggies, and several (delicious) potato salads I observed people from our church's "past" connecting with those who are our "present."

The word *Homecoming* reminds me of a similar word that we don't seem to use as much these days: *Home-Going*. When I was a young man wrestling with God's calling to vocational ministry, I remember asking my father (also a pastor) question after question.

I shared my joy in preaching God's Word and seeing the Lord work in people's lives. I told him how I was excited to officiate a friend's upcoming wedding and help that new family begin with a Godly foundation.

And then one day, I let my dad know that I was anxious about preaching my first funeral. I don't remember the exact encouragement that he gave me, but I remember this part, "The funeral of a Christian is a celebration of homegoing." That term has come to my mind at every funeral I've preached and attended since then... including that of my father, who went home to be with Jesus a little over two years ago.

Thinking about these two words, Homecoming and Homegoing, over the past couple of weeks has helped me realize one more reason why I enjoy Homecoming celebrations at church much more than any of the Homecomings I have attended at schools:

Homecoming at church provides us with a 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension of celebration, connecting the "past" with the "present," and looking ahead with confident hope for the "future" in Christ.

"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit."

— Romans 15:13 (NLT)

Trusting Jesus with my Comings and Goings,

P.S. This Sunday, May 1, we will continue our *FEAR*<*LESS* teaching series with a message on "Keeping Calm in the Chaos." Join us In-Person if at all possible (Sunday at 11am) or tune into Church Online (multiple service times) at <u>FBCGC.live</u> if you can't make it in-person.



## Teaching Series: CHOOSING FAITH IN FRIGHTENING TIMES

Sunday, May 1: Keeping Calm in Chaos



# Mother's Day and Child Dedication Sunday May 8, 2022

Child Dedication will be held during our morning worship. If you would like to take part in this special event, please call the church office.



### Graduates



Please notify the church office if you will be or have already graduated either High School or College since our last recognitions. The time will be from (May 2021 until May 2022).

We are working on our church recognition service and need to know if you will be taking part in this service.