**Celebrating a Birthday** 

July 3 July 5 July 8 David Williford Kimberly Jackson Mary Kay Schaffer



# Serving Our Church on Sunday <u>Ushers</u>

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

#### **Counters**

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

## **Nursery**

Laurann Mucha
Autumn & Summer Brinson

## **Preschool**

Lisa Bragg



Amber Duke



#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

You're Invited to Join Us! Sunday, July 3, 2022

9:30am – Breakfast Served

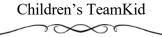
9:30am – Church Library Open

10:00am – Sunday School Groups

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

## Wednesday, July 6, 2022

7:00pm Adult and Youth Bible Study &



#### **VITAL SIGNS**

Budget Gifts Sunday	\$6,343.00
Budget Gifts to Date	



We hope everyone has a safe and Happy 4<sup>th</sup>! Church office will be closed Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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Loving God, Loving People, and Lighting the Way

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Closed on Fridays

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Tommy Duke—Senior Pastor
Randall Frantz—Associate Pastor

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# **REJOICING & RESPONSIBILITY**

Will you join me in rejoicing that God has been faithfully adding to His church lately? Almost every week, we are welcoming new people to worship and many are taking steps to get plugged in. This past Sunday, we had a Newcomers Reception with about a dozen in attendance to learn more about FBC and how they can get involved. Please join me in praising God for sending these new people.

Along with the rejoicing about new people attending our church comes a new layer of responsibility. Jesus doesn't just call us to get people to attend church. No, He commissions us to make disciples, baptize these new believers, and teach them to obey His commands. So, in addition to praising God, please pray for us to be responsible stewards in making disciples of them!

God often brings *results worth rejoicing*, then *calls us* to be responsible to cooperate with what He's doing.

We have a similar situation in our nation right now. After nearly 50 years, the U.S. Supreme Court last week effectively reversed the ruling of *Roe vs. Wade* that had created a legal right to abortion.

This is a result worth rejoicing! The Bible shows us a God who is clearly pro-life. Genesis reveals that every human life bears the Imago Dei (the image of God):

"So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." – Genesis 1:27

In addition, multiple passages reveal God's involvement in our lives from the moment of conception, including Psalm 139:

"You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed." — Psalm 139:13-16

Please join me in praising the Lord to celebrate this ruling and the countless lives that it will save! But make no mistake, this reason for rejoicing also carries a responsibility for us as Christ followers.

The pro-life mandate of the Bible has far-reaching effects beyond the birthday. Throughout the Old and New Testaments, God is clear that He expects His people to care for those in need. How can we work with other believers to take care of children and families in need? How can we support those who still grieve over past decisions? Remember James 1:27:

"Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you."

Let's join together in praying to thank God for this change in our nation *and* praying for Him to show each of us the best way to cooperate with Him to nurture and support human life from beginning to end.

Praying for the Lord's Direction,

P.S. Don't miss this Sunday, July 3, as we continue our *Character Builder* teaching series, looking at Hannah and the trait of Faithfulness. Join us In-Person if possible (Sunday at 11:00am) or Church Online (multiple service times) at FBCGC.live.



- JULY 3 HANNAH: LESSONS ON FAITHFULNESS
- JULY 10 RUTH: LESSONS ON RESPONSIBILITY
- JULY 17 BOAZ: LESSONS ON JUSTICE
- JULY 24 JONATHAN: LESSONS ON LOYALTY

# <u>Interested in joining the</u> <u>FBC family?</u>

- ➤ Sign up for Membership Class
  Sunday, July 17 (12:15-2:45)
  Learn more about why church membership
  matters, what it takes to be a member at FBC.
- ➤ Sign up for Summer Growth Groups
  Summer groups are now meeting in person
  and will meet weekly through August. Don't
  miss out on this spiritual growth opportunity!