

FROM BRIDGE STREET

News & Updates From Our Church



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Thankful for the Lord

BY PASTOR ERIC TRUESDALE

It is incredible to think that November will be here this week. Before we know it, we will be eating turkey, watching the Macy's Day Parade, and watching the biggest rivalry in South Carolina sports again (needless to say both have room to improve). However, even though society has commercialized the time around Thanksgiving, scripture calls for us to take time and be thankful. We should always be grateful for what the Lord has given and will give. But we have this one day a year to be even more vigilant to tell Him how thankful we are. Ephesians 5:20 tells us we should always give thanks to God always for all things. We are blessed to have so many things. However, we sometimes think about the bad instead of the good. Let us be intentional this Thanksgiving as we are seated around family and friends to speak about things we are thankful for. We never know who may be sitting beside us or across the table that must be reminded of how amazing our God is. When I think it through, all the things I am thankful for outweigh anything I may not be grateful for. However, is there really anything that comes into our lives we shouldn't thank God for? Even in the valleys, they serve as a reminder of the power of God. Especially after we come out of the valley, we may not always be able to see the reason at that moment for every circumstance in life. However, in the end, I do end up being thankful because no matter what, it is an opportunity to draw closer to the Lord.

AED/ LIFEVAC

BY PASTOR ERIC TRUESDALE

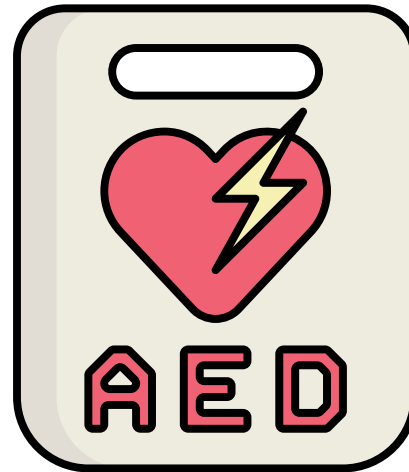
This year, First Baptist was able to purchase an AED, an automated external defibrillator. This will allow us to be better equipped to save physical lives in the event of certain medical events. Your physical health is just as important to us as your spiritual health. We enjoy each of you and are blessed to have you as part of our family. The AED will allow us to perform needed measures in the event of someone having certain cardiac events. The AED will be positioned in the hallway by the church offices for easy access during services.

In addition we also purchased a device called LifeVac. This device allows us to remove things that someone may be choking on. The device is placed over the individual's mouth that is choking to suction it out of their airway. We have purchased two of these devices. One is located in the nursery and another is located in the kitchen.

Both of these devices will assist First Baptist in helping to protect our church family during a critical medical emergency.



Pictures of October '23
CPR/ AED Training



In addition to the devices, Calhoun County EMS taught a class on CPR, AED, and LifeVac basics. They spent time training individuals on how to properly check to see if an individual needs medical help, how to attach and use the AED, how to perform basic CPR on infants and others, how to perform the Heimlich Maneuver on children and infants, as well as the use of the LifeVac.

We had over 28 in attendance in the class so that they could assist anyone with severe cardiac distress or choking issues. First Baptist is blessed to have many in our church who perform in the medical or first responder field with additional training.

Please know that none of these devices removes the importance of EMS and living a healthy lifestyle. Romans 12:1 tells us we should present our bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and acceptable to God. God has entrusted us with our bodies, and through it, we can worship, serve, and glorify Him. Our bodies are also crucial to sharing Jesus Christ with others. The healthier we are, the more people we can tell about Jesus.

We pray that we will never have to use any of this equipment; however, from personal experience in EMS/ Fire and other pastors, there is always the possibility.

IN THE KITCHEN WITH PATTI

BY PATTI SMITH AND ERIC TRUESDALE

Community is a vital part of humanity. It brings with it a sense of belonging and togetherness. Through community, we are encouraged, edified, loved, and challenged. The church is a community that shares the common belief that Jesus Christ is the Lord and the only means of salvation. In this community, one should be able to enter knowing everyone is on equal ground. We are all sinners saved by grace, not because of our own doing, but because of what Jesus has done. One should be welcomed into fellowship with open arms through the community of believers. Romans 15:7 tells us to welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us. To be welcomed is to be brought into fellowship together.

The fellowship we share over coffee and pastry extends the fellowship encountered through the church. Each Sunday is dedicated to creating a place for others to join together and interact to glorify our risen Lord. If you have yet to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30, come and join the fellowship with your brothers and sisters.



Mrs. Patti serving in our kitchen



Patti Smith

What a blessing it is to serve others (1 Peter 4:10.) God gave us all spiritual gifts. I love this new ministry where we come together for fellowship and provide food and drinks before church. First Baptist Church St. Matthews is blessed to have a nice fellowship hall and kitchen.

On Sunday mornings, we serve coffee, juice, and a sweet roll. The fellowship with other Christians is the most important aspect of this ministry. We would love to have other members join us, and children are always welcome. Everything we do is for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Each week we are rewarded with coming together and sharing our love with others. We meet at 9:30 on Sunday mornings before Sunday School. The kitchen opens at 9:00. If anyone is interested in the ministry on Sunday mornings, please call the pastor or church office.

Patti Smith





November 2023

Upcoming Events

5th - 3 pm Fall Festival
6th - 2 pm Current Missions
7th - 5 pm Trustees meeting
5:30 pm Vision Team
8th - 12 pm Golden Group
10th - Veterans day- office closed
12th - 6 pm Deacons meeting
15th - 12 pm Sewing for Missions
22nd - No Wednesday services
23rd-24th - Thanksgiving- office closed
27th - 2 pm Roundtable

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1st - Jane Reed Holeman
3rd - Carolyn Jackson
3rd - Jana Lambert
11th - Melanie Robbs
12th - Patti Shuler
13th - David Rickenbaker
15th -Jennifer Truesdale
19th - Johnnie Smith
20th - Larry Doyle
23rd - Donnie Young
24th - Brooks Smith
27th - Patti Smith

Please note that all birthdays and anniversaries are pulled from ChurchTrac. If your information is not listed, we do not have it in the system. So please update it in Churchtrac or contact the church office for help.



*Building bridges for Christ in
St. Matthews and the world!*