

SIGN UP ONLINE
FEB 12 | 5:30P-7:00P

daddy&daughter
CAMPFIRE

FBCKids

Come dressed comfy and warm and enjoy pizza, s'mores, and a campfire! We will build the fire on the grass lot next to the FBC Gym's parking lot. Don't forget to bring lawn chairs or blankets! Sign up at www.fbcbarnesville.com/campfire/

The Witness (USPS 689-040) is published monthly by First Baptist Church, 200 Zebulon Street, Barnesville, GA. Second Class postage is paid at Barnesville, Georgia, 30204. Postmaster send change of address to The Witness, 200 Zebulon Street, Barnesville, GA 30204.

CHURCH STAFF

Greg Burrell | Minister of Music
Russ Jenkins | Assoc. Pastor of Ed/Adm.
Jason Teal | Student/Young Adult Pastor
Josh Adams | Middle School Minister
Jennifer Zeager | Children's Minister
Melinda Merritt | Financial Director
Mary Sanders | Pastor's Secretary
Cara Grobelaar | Admin. Assistant

Email: cara@fbcbarnesville.com
Church # (770) 358-2353
Social Media @firstbaptistbarnesville



MARCH 6-7, 2021

**BIBLE
EMPHASIS
WEEKEND**

APOLOGETICS

**with Shawn Hart from
Ravi Zacharias International Ministries**

Visit www.fbcbarnesville.com/BEW2021

THE WITNESS VOL 55 | FEB 2021 | NO. 02



A Note from Greg Burrell

Somewhere in the middle of Chris Reynold's time with us, he and I were talking on the phone. He said, "I have 1000 churches in my region, and I would place FBC Barnesville in the top 10 in the way they have responded and prospered in the time of COVID." That was good to hear, and I made sure our good friend Garth heard it, too.

So how are we responding? We are cautiously moving forward. Rather than taking our students to the Strength to Stand conference in Tennessee, Jason brought in Algernon Tennyson and Scarlett Fade to our church and provided a great night of worship for our students. Jennifer opted for an Upward Basketball Camp here at the church, rather than the regular Upward season that would crowd our gym with players, siblings, parents, and grandparents. These are smart adjustments and keep our activities going.

Meanwhile Russ, with the help of Jason, Robert Rainey and Joe Andrews, has been adding equipment and running wires so that we can broadcast the Sunday sermon not only "sanctuary-to-gym" but also "gym-to-sanctuary." We will be able to broadcast online from the gym also! Soon our preacher will alternate between preaching in the sanctuary and preaching in the gym.

We are working hard to provide the best pastoral care we can to our people in this difficult time. Hospital visits are banned due to the virus, but we call and text... and certainly pray.

The virus is high. Our deacons asked us to communicate that we will not mandate mask-wearing; but we encourage mask wearing and distancing for the sake of all. In areas where it is hard to distance, i.e. our halls and small Sunday School rooms, masks are a helpful layer of protection.

This body of believers will be as cautious as we know how; but we are not closing these doors. So please continue to support your church! If you feel safe coming, we are here for you and our people have been distancing beautifully in our services. If you do not feel safe, watch us online and leave a comment, an encouraging word for the staff and your brothers and sisters! And financially: you have kept this church afloat through an unprecedented 2020; with your continued giving we will still be here when this new year draws to a close. This pandemic will not last, but this church will.

Okay, happier topic! Welcome to Reed Crumbliss, our new interim preacher! I hope you have enjoyed his sermons as much as I have. Reed, a native of Macon, has a gift for preaching to us "just plain folks." We look forward to our months together!



Pastor Search Team Update

Pray for us! We need your prayers!

Thank you for returning your surveys. We had 147 responses and we learned a lot about the heart of our church concerning our next pastor. We learned that you want a family man. You want a pastor that is equally committed to the Classic and Contemporary services. You want him to be skilled in a variety of preaching styles, not just one style week after week. And you want him to be committed to great pastoral care for this church!

We are now in the process of gathering resumes and prayerfully considering them. But we are not in a hurry; we are committed to God's leading and God's timing. Remember the story of David being anointed king by Samuel? We do not want to miss David because one of his brothers looked better. So, we are praying for God's direction.

Which brings us back to... pray for us! Pray that we will hear God's voice; pray that the committee will be Spirit-led. You do not want just a good pastor for this church, you want God's pastor for this church! Your prayers are the key!

Ministry Highlight: WMU

The Women Mission's Union mandate is to make disciples of Jesus who live on mission no matter where they are located.

A few of the WMU's objectives are to pray for missions and missionaries, to participate in missions, and tell people about Jesus. WMU members also actively supporting missions and educating themselves and others about the importance of mission work. WMU strives to make spiritually strong disciples of Jesus who practice a missional lifestyle. WMU is an active part of Southern Baptist Convention and Georgia Baptist Mission Board. People of all ages can participate in WMU!

If you would like to get involved please contact Denise Cox, our WMU leader at church. FBC's WMU hosts a monthly gathering called Coffee and Conversation every first Tuesday of the month at 10:30 in the Annex. Each gathering will be focused on missions and ways to get involved in mission projects.

For more information please visit <https://wmu.com>

