



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

**TUCKER**

OCTOBER 2020 • VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 7



***It's Shoebox Time Again!  
Change The Life of a Child  
with a Simple Gift...***



**NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>  
• DEDICATION DAY, NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> •**

Through Operation Christmas Child, Samaritan's Purse is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with millions of boys and girls in more than 100 countries each year. Many of these children have never before received a present or heard the true meaning of Christmas—until they open a gift-filled shoebox from a person like you.

Now more than ever, children need hope. You can bless a child with great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ by packing a shoebox or building one online.

**If you would like to donate:**

First Baptist Tucker has a special online page to make donations that will go towards meeting our 2020 goal of 150 boxes.

**CLICK HERE TO SAFELY DONATE**

continues on page 5

(for more information visit [www.fbctucker.org](http://www.fbctucker.org) or call (770) 938-1688)

## In This Month's Issue

For the health and safety of ALL our membership—please stay home if you are unwell and join us online on Facebook Live. Remember that should you experience any of the following symptoms you should stay home: runny nose, fever, cough, headache, body aches, or sore throat.



Parent Workday Dedicated to Prep for MSPS Outdoor Learning Makes a Big Impact—See Page 2.



Children's Ministry Re-Start Coming Soon. Read More on Page 3.

## NEXT NTO LUNCHEON!

October 13th is NTO's **ONE DAY ONLY** Luncheon,

Featuring Singer

**Steve McKee!**

Details on Page 5.



If you call FBC Tucker your faith community, we ask that you pray about giving financially to support, and grow our ministries. You can give online by visiting [www.fbctucker.org](http://www.fbctucker.org)





# First Baptist Church Tucker's Main Street Preschool (MSPS)

Monday-Thursday • 8:30AM-1:30PM • 1st Floor Building A

Vangie Rodenback, MSPS Director



## Embracing the Great Outdoors

Main Street Preschool has never been a place that jumped on the newest educational trend—unless that trend makes good ol' fashioned common sense. It just so happens that the one of the newest trends has proved helpful during this time of pandemic response AND extremely healthy for children overall—enter the outdoor classroom!

*I'm from the era where my parents told me to play outside "until the streetlights came on." We were expected to play outside every day. Even in the winter, we wore coats over sweatshirts with hoods as we built forts, rode bikes, tromped through the woods, and caused general havoc in our neighborhoods from after school until it got too dark for it to be safe. If we did complain that the wind made it a little too chilly for our tiny hands, I remember being told that the cool air was good for me because I'd been sitting inside all day at school. Well, some of that wisdom is making a come back.*

An article in The Atlantic published in 2018 reported that the number of "nature-based preschools" had grown 500 percent since 2012. Harkening back to a time when Open Air Classrooms were popular



ways of combatting tuberculosis, we are finding that both private and public schools are converting learning spaces out of doors on their campus' into learning spaces.

On Saturday, September 12th, I was accompanied by around ten parent volunteers from Main Street Preschool for a Workday dedicated to cleaning both of our playgrounds and converting the smaller of the two into an Outdoor Classroom. While it is definitely still a work in progress, we've been able to add three 8-foot picnic tables to allow our kids to complete both school work and their lunch period outside in the fresh air. We converted our sandboxes to curriculum themed dig boxes to meet both educational and sensory needs. We've also added a small climber to allow for all that "heavy work" growing nervous systems crave.

We've got more dreams for this space. We hope to add some structures to help promote balance through play, an outdoor chalkboard, and maybe some planters so the children can experience growing plants and observing the life cycle up close.

*continues on page 3*





# FBC Tucker Children's Ministry

## Children's Ministry Re-Start Coming Soon!

It is our deepest desire to keep the health and safety of the children in our ministry here at FBC Tucker a priority. We have recently felt the need to begin planning and dreaming about how we could "re-start" our children's ministry amid COVID protocols and procedures. Rethinking what a "COVID informed" ministry setting for children will look like in our church has taken more than one perspective and more than one point of view!

We compiled a short survey with questions for parents and caregivers so that, moving forward, we can make informed decisions. Here are a few of the things we learned:

- Parents and caregivers are **in favor of a RSVP system** for Sunday morning worship. Not only will this allow us to track our attendance for COVID purposes, it also allows us to plan for smaller groups that are age appropriate, since some ages can't wear masks.
- We had a positive response to **limiting the number of toys/activities each week** to what we can appropriately disinfect. Activities will be set out intentionally for the use of our volunteers and toys sanitized after each service.

- We will also be **taking the temperature** of all children and volunteers upon entering the ministry classroom area.

We hope to utilize our outdoor classroom space for story-telling and allow children the opportunity to get fresh air and mask breaks as needed. October will be a time for us to try our new processes, "tweak our systems," and put better policies into place.

*Rethinking what a "COVID informed" ministry setting for children will look like in our church has taken more than one perspective and more than one point of view!*

If you have family with children visiting FBCT on a Sunday morning and would like them to attend children's classes, please send them to [www.fbctucker.org/children-s-ministry](http://www.fbctucker.org/children-s-ministry) to rsvp by the previous Wednesday evening so that we can adequately prepare a place for them on Sunday morning.

We covet your prayers as we seek to care for our youngest worshippers at FBCT!

— Vangie





## The Continued Need for Food and Monetary Donations

NETWorks continues to experience increased requests for food assistance as well as assistance with rent & utility payments because so many of our neighbors are out of work, or have had their hours cut back. There is a constant need for shelf-stable food, but considering the difficulty now for you to shop and/or drop off your purchases, please consider making donations directly to NETWorks. We have several faithful young volunteers who can do the shopping. You can either make your donation through the church office (indicate on your check that you want it to go to NETWorks) or you can mail a check directly to NETWorks at 2380 4th Street, Tucker, GA 30084. You also can make donations online at [www.networkscoop.org/donate](http://www.networkscoop.org/donate).



*"Great Outdoors" continued from page 2*

*I am so thankful for our parent volunteers who gave of their time, talents and monies to help sponsor this amazing space. And as always, we couldn't exist without the extraordinary support of FBC Tucker to make this special space on our corner of Tucker happen.*

*Sincerely,  
Vangie*





**No Other GOSPEL**  
A STUDY IN GALATIANS

**OCTOBER SERMON SCHEDULE**

### Sunday Worship Sermons Begin at 11AM

**OCTOBER 4  
"Grace & Legalism"**

Galatians 2:1-10

**OCTOBER 11  
"Grace & Hypocrisy"**

Galatians 2:11-14

**OCTOBER 18  
"Faith Alone, Part 1"**

Galatians 2:15-29

**OCTOBER 25  
"Faith Alone, Part 2"**

Galatians 3:1-14

\*Sanctuary services will be broadcast on Facebook Live and [posted to our website](#) our website later in the day on Sunday for those not in attendance.



A Senior Adult Ministry of First Baptist Church of Tucker

## NTO OCTOBER LUNCH MEETING

OUR PROGRAM: **MASKS REQUIRED** 

### **Singer, Steve McKee**

*One Day Only » Tuesday, Oct. 13th 11:30 a.m.*

**Main Street Fellowship Hall • Doors Open at 11:00 a.m.**

Steve McKee is an Atlanta native and has been performing for audiences all over the Southeast for ten years. He performs various styles of music, from oldies to classic standards to country, gospel and more.



**PRICE CHANGE BEGINNING THIS MONTH • LUNCH IS \$8 PER PERSON • EXACT CHANGE PLEASE**

**Dining-in / To Go Orders by Reservation Only**

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED - ONLY 50 RESERVATIONS PER MEETING!!**

**RSVP via email at [nco@fbctucker.org](mailto:nco@fbctucker.org) or call 770.938.1688, ext 210.**

*"Operation Shoebox" continued from cover page*



Note: You can build a box on the OCC website, but it will not be counted toward our goal. You will be able to build a shoebox for \$25. You may also donate through the church. Send a check, or drop in the donation box on Sunday, made to FBCT and write OCC Shoebox in the memo line, and/or on the envelope. The donation will be used to build a shoebox(es).

**If you would like to pack a box:**

*If you would like to pack your own shoebox, information and pre-printed boxes will be available at the October meeting. Return your shoeboxes at the November meeting or make your online donation by November 15th. For questions, email Becky Fortenberry at [b2fortenberry@yahoo.com](mailto:b2fortenberry@yahoo.com).*

**BRING YOUR FILLED SHOEBOXES** to the church office now through Nov. 22nd, or bring them to the church sanctuary on **DEDICATION DAY, NOVEMBER 15th**. Pre-printed boxes, flyers and information on what to pack are available in the Gathering Room. Please remember, **NO CANDY AND NO TOOTHPASTE.**



## Church Conference Scheduled for Sunday, November 1st

Much like our last conference when we called Andrew as pastor, we will hold this conference immediately following the morning church service. There are several items on the agenda and we need a quorum of members and 10 deacons in attendance to validate the vote.



Please Join Us for Sunday  
Morning Bible Study

SUNDAYS AT 9:45AM

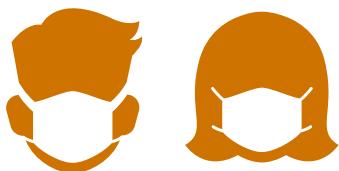
**Adult A Class**

Main Street Fellowship Hall

*Our office is open Monday through Friday, 9am to 3pm. Should you need to see a staff member, we ask that you call the church to make an appointment. All of our staff are practicing social distancing and request that you wear masks when visiting the office. Calling ahead allows us to open larger rooms where we can meet in a healthy and safe way.*



## MASKS REQUIRED



**"The Healing Place"**  
**Walking & Exercise FBC Gym**

Air-conditioned Music!

Times:

Mon - Fri, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.