



A Message from Pastor Andrew

Dear Church Family,

The summer months are upon us and many of you are planning much-needed vacations because—let's be honest—after 2020, we could all use a vacation and none of us got to take one in lockdown last summer. What is your favorite vacation memory? I wonder if you've ever been on a cruise? Lana and I had the joy of taking one for our honeymoon over 10 years ago. It was a 10 day trip, and every morning, we woke up docked at a new island. Amazing. Cruises are so much fun. Of course, this was all before COVID, when it was still safe to board a cruise ship!

Cruise ships are pretty incredible to me. They are massive, can lodge thousands of people, and are full of entertainment of all sorts and an unending supply of wonderful food. You could say that they are intentionally luxurious. That is their purpose. They are built with luxury and comfort in mind.

Battleships, on the other hand, are quite different. They're often just as large as a cruise ship, and can hold just as many people on board, but they are not built for luxury, they are built for battle. They are built with the mission in mind. The people on board are not there for pleasure and a little R&R, they are there on assignment, often laying down their lives for the purpose of their mission.

When you think about these two types of ships, consider with me what type of "ship" our church—FBC Tucker—is more like. ***Is our church a cruise ship or a battleship?***

It's necessary for the health of our church to consider this question. It's important how we view our church. The way in which we do will determine our own personal involvement in the life of our church, our relation to other members, and our attitude towards non-members. It will affect how we steward our resources—money, assets, people, and time. It will influence our various emphases and values. It will affect our interactions with the community of Tucker, GA.

If we view our church as a cruise ship, that makes us passengers who purchased our place, here to enjoy ourselves, relax, be catered to, and exist with no real purpose in our community. Essentially, it becomes all about us. We become the purpose and focus and it will become a tempting habit to be only focused on what

continues on page 2

(for more information visit www.fbctucker.org or call (770) 938-1688)

Announcements



Registration in Process for Main Street Preschool!

Registration is currently in process for Main Street Preschool (MSPS) Fall 2021-2022 school year. Ages 6 months to 5 years (kindergarten).

Contact Austin Prince at mainstreetpreschool@fbctucker.org or call **770-938-1688 ext 230** for information



Now accepting applications for Main Street Preschool Open Staff positions for the 2021-2022 school year. If interested, please contact Austin Prince at mainstreetpreschool@fbctucker.org

We will begin the interview process soon.



Please send submissions for the Tidings each month before the 15th to **Candy Rogers** at crogers@fbctucker.org

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



continued from Cover

we want *individually*. We lose sight of others needs and the mission for which we were created by God.

Standing in great contrast, we can and should view the church as a battleship. If our church is a battleship, we have a mission, a commanding officer (and it's Jesus, not me), we each have duties and responsibilities, and yet, we are a part of a team with a common goal and purpose. If the church is more like a battleship than a cruise ship, we are not members here for our own comfort, but are here to serve and be faithful to the mission that God has established us for. Most foundational and important, we were recruited by the King. We didn't buy our place, so the only claim we have to be here is Jesus.

I can think of many analogies to describe the church—a family, a body, a kingdom-outpost, a hospital for the sick and broken, and yes, a battleship. But never is the church described like a cruise ship. There are so many places in Scripture we could go to look at such descriptions of the church—Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4, Colossians 1, 1 Timothy and Titus. But, just consider a few brief words from Jesus to Peter for now: *“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build **my church**, and **the gates of hell shall not prevail against it**. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”*—Matthew 16:18-19. This is not a cruise ship church family. This is a battleship commissioned by Jesus.

First Baptist Tucker must not function like a cruise ship. We are a battleship and we have been given a mission. We don't exist for the luxurious comfort of it's paying passengers. We exist for our God-given mission: to proclaim the good news, the gospel of Jesus, to the nations. Our mission is much like the mission Jesus proclaimed of himself: *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”*—Luke 4:18-19

I'm not here to tell everyone that we are a cruise ship. I'm here, as a fellow member and your pastor who loves you, to simply draw attention to what could be a tempting attitude and mindset here at FBC Tucker if we are not careful and intentional. I am attempting to highlight the real danger in allowing our church to drift towards an unhealthy, *purposeless* identity.

First Baptist Tucker family, let us not be content with cruising, but let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, our Savior, advocate, and older brother, our King and Commander. ***“No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.”***—2 Timothy 2:4

With the love of Christ our King,

— Pastor Andrew

SERMON SCHEDULE

JULY 4

“Authentic Faith Works”

James 2:14-26



JULY 11

“Authentic Faith Speaks”

James 3:1-12

JULY 18

“Authentic Faith is Humble”

James 3:13-4:12

JULY 25

“Authentic Faith Lasts”

James 4:13-5:12



Church Conference and Lunch

Sunday, Aug.1 at Noon
in the Main Street
Fellowship Hall immediately
following worship.



NT TOUCH

A SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TUCKER

NTO JULY LUNCH MEETING

Tuesday, July 13th at 11:30 a.m.

We are happy to announce that we have been able to increase the number of reservations available by **25 seats**. Another change you should be aware of is that **tables will NOT be assigned**. Also, no seat/table may be saved ahead of time. Doors will open at 10:30 a.m. The first person to arrive in your group may save the seats at your table for your group. You are asked to **wear a mask only if you have not been vaccinated** if you feel more comfortable doing so.



🎵 Entertainment will be Jared Duncan

Jared Duncan studied Choral Music Education at University of Kentucky and Music Education at Campbellsville University. From Monticello, Kentucky, Jared now resides in Decatur, GA. Currently he is the Interim Director of Music at First Baptist Church Tucker and teaches Chorus at the DeKalb School of the Arts.



The MENU is Italian Chicken, Pasta and Veggies

★★★ **Make Your Reservations by July 9th** ★★★

LUNCH IS \$8 PER PERSON • PLEASE HAVE EXACT CHANGE

RSVP via email at nto@fbctucker.org or leave a message at **770.938.1688**, ext 217.

Please use email if you are able. Whichever method you use, you will receive a confirmation. If you use email, please add nto@fbctucker.org to your contacts to prevent your confirmation from going into your spam file. Please be patient.

TAKE-OUT will continue to be offered; Pick-up at 12:00pm. Reservations required.
No limit to the number of take-out meals you can order.



Networks Good Neighbor Back to School Shop

On July 13th, you will have an opportunity to help parents in our area provide school supplies for their families at a reduced cost. Bring cash or check to help NTO with the purchase of backpacks; make checks out to "FBC Tucker."



The Healing Place

Walking & Exercise in the FBC Gym

Monday-Thursday 9:30-11:00 AM

• AIR CONDITIONED! • MUSIC! •



Those who have not been vaccinated are asked to please wear a mask. 🧑‍🤝‍🧑





Networks' Good Neighbor Back to School Shop

The Good Neighbor **Back 2 School** Shop **sells** new school supplies at discounted prices offering neighbors in need a respectful way to prepare for the new school year. This is an opportunity for parents with financial challenges in the Northlake-Embry Hills-Tucker area to provide for their families in an affordable manner. **This year's sale will again be held in our gym on July 31st and August 1st.** Please bring NEW, PACKAGED supplies to the Gathering Room by July 25th. You can find the shopping list at www.NETWorksCoop.org/bts or you can pick up a shopping list in the Gathering Room on Sunday. If you prefer, you can make a donation and someone will do the shopping for you!



Sanctuary Flowers New Process

*If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary in memory or honor of someone, please call the church office at 770-938-1688 ext 210 or email **Candy Rogers** at crogers@fbctucker.org by the Monday before the Sunday you'd like to place them. Please note, even if you have placed flowers every year on the same Sunday of the year, you will still need to place a call or send an email by the Monday before the Sunday you'd like the flowers placed.*

COMING IN JULY 2021

"The Healing Place" Ministry is Every Monday - Thursday from 9:30-11AM in the GYM.

Sunday, July 4th • Independence Day

9:30 AM Adult A Sunday Sch - MSFH
9:30 AM Encouragers Sunday Sch - LC
9:45 AM Seekers Sun. School - LFH
11:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanc

Monday, July 5th

Office Closed in Observance of July 4

Tuesday, July 6th

11:30 AM NTO Council - MSFH

Saturday, July 10th

ALL DAY DDM - MSFH

Sunday, July 11th

9:30 AM Adult A Sun. School - MSFH
9:30 AM Encouragers Sunday Sch - LC
9:45 AM Seekers Sun. School - LFH
11:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanc

Tuesday, July 13th

11:30 AM NTO Luncheon - MSFH

Thursday, July 15th

10:00 AM Tucker Book Club - MSFH

Saturday, July 17th

7:30 AM Georgia Assoc. of
Home Inspectors - MSFH

Sunday, July 18th

9:30 AM Adult A Sun. School - MSFH
9:30 AM Encouragers Sunday Sch - LC
9:45 AM Seekers Sun. School - LFH
11:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanc

Sunday, July 25th

9:30 AM Adult A Sun. School - MSFH
9:30 AM Encouragers Sunday Sch - LC
9:45 AM Seekers Sun. School - LFH
11:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanc
12:00 PM Admin. Team Mtg - MSFH

Saturday, July 31st

ALL DAY NETWORKS' Back to
School Shop - GYM

Sunday, August 1st

12:00 PM Church Conf. & Lunch - MSFH

KEY
CR - Choir Room CoR - Community Room
LFH - LaVista Fellowship Hall GL - Gym Lobby
G - Gym MC - Ministry Center NTO - Never Too Old
SANC - Sanctuary SGR - Small Group Room
MSFH - Main St. Fellowship Hall LC - LaVista Chapel



The church office will be closed Monday, July 5, in observance of the 4th of July holiday.



Congratulations to...

...Hillary and Dan McKay! **Ezra Louis**

McKay was born June 16 at 10:43 pm. He weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz. and was 20 inches long.



Sympathies To...

» **Crandall Woodson, Jessica Wade, Daniel Woodson, and Lauren Armstrong and their families** in the death of Crandall's mom and Jessica, Daniel and Lauren's grandmother, **Mable Woodson**, on Thursday, June 17. She lived in Sturgis, Mississippi. The funeral and burial was in Sturgis on Saturday, June 19.



Congratulations and thank you to **Laura Roberds** for 5 years of Service at First Baptist Church of Tucker (July 3, 2016)!

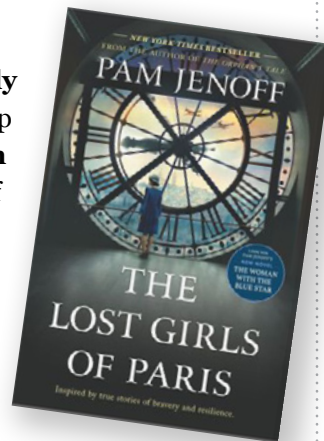
FBC OFFICE HOURS

Our office is open Monday through Thursday, 9 AM to 3 PM (closed 12 to 1 for lunch).

Please note the office will be closed Monday, July 5, in observance of the holiday.

Tucker Book Group is July 15th

The next meeting will take place on **Thursday, July 15th at 10:00am** in the Main Street Fellowship Hall. The book is ***The Lost Girls of Paris*** by **Pam Jenoff**. Book Group meets on the third Thursday of each month. Our theme this year is ***Courageous Women***. If you would like to join us, please contact Kathy Ray; she will make sure you get this year's book list. If you don't feel secure in attending in person but would like to add your thoughts, you may email Kathy and she will share these at the meeting.



Good Readings!

- **Kathy Ray**

kathy.ray1955@gmail.com / 770-605-2498

