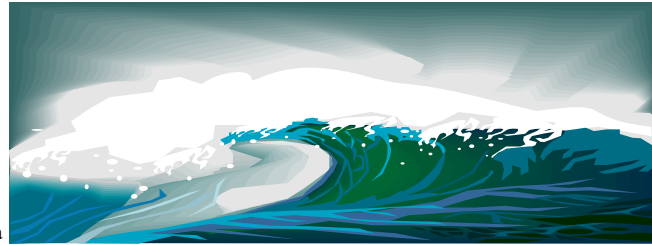




The *September 2025* Anchor

We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...Heb.6:19a



As we enter September, we think about Labor Day. The U.S. Department of Labor describes Labor Day as the first Monday in September, celebrating the social and economic contributions of American workers. It began in the late nineteenth century when labor activists sought a federal holiday to honor workers' contributions to America's strength and well-being.

Today, Labor Day often symbolizes a day off, the unofficial end of summer, and a time for rest. The Bible emphasizes the importance of rest, particularly on the Sabbath. Mark 2:27 tells us, "*The Sabbath was made for man,*" highlighting rest as a gift for our benefit. Thomas Edison once said, "Rest is not idle; it is an opportunity to recharge your soul."

I don't know about you, but I find myself sometimes needing to recharge my soul. Part of that recharging begins when we plug into God's Word. We seek His wisdom and guidance for our lives. When we know we need to be recharged, we should look to the Lord. The act of resting allows us to pause our busy lives and reflect on our spiritual well-being.

Matthew 11:28-30 invites those weary and burdened to find rest in Jesus. While most of us won't intentionally use Labor Day to grow closer to God, we can use it as a reminder of the necessity of rest. Lack of sleep can lead to various health issues, such as insomnia, anxiety, depression, cognitive impairment, and weakened immunity. I don't know about you, but I tend to overeat when I am exhausted. Regardless, all of these issues will cloud our spiritual focus, and ultimately hinder our relationship with God.

To use rest positively and spiritually, engage in practices like prayer, reading Scripture, attending worship more regularly or take part in a small group like Christians with Coffee, Men's or Women's Fellowship, Bible Study, or even try journaling, or spending time in nature. These activities not only nourish our souls, but also create an environment for us to cultivate a deeper relationship with the Lord. Philippians 4:6-7 encourages us *not to be anxious but to present our requests to God*, assuring us that His peace will guard our hearts.

As summer winds down, let's use Labor Day as a reminder to rest and draw closer to God. Rest doesn't signify laziness; rather, it prepares us for the challenges ahead. In moments of rest, we can reflect on our burdens and bring them to God. Remember, you cannot pour from an empty vessel. I remind myself of this all the time. Let us seek to embrace this season as a time to reflect, recharge, and renew our commitment to our spiritual journey as we draw closer to God. Seek rest as a way to realign our priorities and reconnect with the divine purpose God has established in our life.

You see, it's in these moments of stillness and quiet and rest, we awaken our spirits, affirm our faith, and recognize that it is through God's grace that we can be rejuvenated. Let us not overlook the power of rest, as it fuels our ability to serve others and fulfill the calling upon our lives. ***Rest! Serve! Repeat! Happy Labor Day to you and your family.***

In His Service,
Pastor Toby



August has truly been a month of blessings and growth for Moving Mountains Youth. On a personal note, I (Pastor Ethan) was grateful to pass a significant state examination for my secular job—a milestone that has lifted a tremendous weight off my shoulders. This accomplishment has allowed me to refocus with a renewed sense of clarity and joy on the work God is doing in and through our youth ministry. Throughout the month, we have had the joy of seeing several new faces in our group. It has been encouraging to see students not only come for the fellowship, games, and community, but also to engage deeply with the truths of God's Word. Our current sermon series on the Christian "basics" has sparked excellent and thought-provoking questions from the students. We have wrestled with meaningful topics such as: Why does God appear so angry in the Old Testament but so forgiving in the New? and How does the Trinity actually work within the being of God? These discussions have been rich, and it is clear that God is stirring a genuine hunger for understanding in the hearts of these young men and women.

Another special highlight this month was the opportunity to pray over the Ravenswood High School football team. Being invited to speak God's blessing and encouragement into their lives was an honor, and it reminded me yet again of the importance of having a Christ-centered presence within our schools and community. Please continue to pray with us that Moving Mountains Youth would be more than just a gathering place—that we would become a steady, faithful part of these students' lives, pointing them continually toward Christ and His unfailing love. As always, I want to sincerely thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and ongoing support of this ministry. Together, we are investing in the next generation, and I am confident that the seeds being planted now will bear lasting fruit for the Kingdom.

Soli Deo Gloria,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ethan", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

- Pastor Ethan

The Angels Are Singing!



Olivia Kate Frazier

I love her resurrected smile! Olivia was baptized on August 24. Let's keep her in prayer for guidance in the path the Lord gives her.

Thank You for Sharing!



Dale Vanderlaan



Sami Lawson



Landon King

Ring That Bell!

Beckham Ritchie



If your child is interested in ringing the Big Bell, let Susan know. Sundays at 10:30.

This is a good way to start them serving in the church.

Emree Mullins



Goodbye for now..



In August, we bid adieu to two of our very special members.

Bob Johnson and **Dorothy Varney**
We will see you again in Gloryland!

*Sing the wondrous love of Jesus
Sing His mercy and His grace
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.*

*When we all get to heaven
What a day of rejoicing that will be
When we all see Jesus
We'll sing and shout the victory*

*Onward to the prize before us
Soon His beauty we'll behold
Soon the pearly gates will open
We shall tread the streets of gold.*

*When we all get to heaven
What a day of rejoicing that will be
When we all see Jesus
We'll sing and shout the victory*





Join Us in the

Young Adults Group

Growing in Christ
together

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

We meet weekly on Sundays at 9:30 am
Additional Bible studies with Adult Groups
are held on Sundays at 6 pm
and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Sun. Sept 7

9:30 am- Sunday Group Study
3:00 pm- Charleston Outing
4 pm Escape Room
5:30- Bible Reading Marathon
on Capital Steps
6:00- Dinner in Charleston

Sat. Sept. 13- FBC Trip to Amish Country

Sun. Sept. 14

9:30- Group Study at Riverfront Park
as we Celebrate our Group's 5th Year!
Breakfast and Sharing

Please RSVP to Jo at 304 687-1222 or
Talia at 304 761-8255

If you would like to join and receive information
About the FBC Young Adults Program.

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

Rhonda Reed



RHONDA serves as a global coordinator for health and wellness. She facilitates networking and collaboration among global servants who work in health and wellness ministries, represents IM in working with global health organizations and supports the well-being of global servants through IM's member care programming. She also provides administrative support to Fundación Proyecto de Esperanza in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

In the month of September, we will be collecting for the World Mission Offering. This offering goes to help our missionaries around the world. Our goal for FBC this month is \$1800 and will help with the work that Rhonda Reed does in Bolivia and other areas. Please pray and give as the Lord leads.

Seeking Singers!



Our First Baptist Church choir is back at it - practicing each Wednesday after Bible study at 7:30-8:30. Director Abbi Woods has chosen beautiful music for us to learn and a Christmas cantata that, I'm sure, everyone will love.

Abbi is great at working with everyone who comes, no matter their skill at singing. If you have a love for music and would like to come, please join us. Men and women are welcome. And you don't have to be a member of FBC to sing! All voices sing for the Lord!

Hope to see you there!

Upcoming



Pastor Toby, Allan and Holly Palmer will be going with the Good Hope Association Mission Team to Boone North Carolina with Samaritan's Purse on September 7-12. Please keep them in prayer as they do the Lord's work.

The office will be closed on Labor Day, September 1.

Enjoy your holiday and rest easy!

Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest".



On this day of solemn remembrance:
May we honor the lives that were lost in this tragic act.
May we give thanks for those who served and saved, rendered aid and assistance.
May we give comfort to those who live with loss.
May we seek justice and peace where it is within our ability,
and rely on you when the ability escapes us.

On this day of solemn remembrance:
May we build what has been torn down.
May we mend what has been broken.
May live your love when hate seems to reign.
May we bear witness to the cause of peace.

By: Derek Weber



Traveling Slow

Traveling Slow



The annual CIRCLE trip took place on August 16. This year, eight excited ladies traveled to the Amish country for a day of shopping, eating and adventure.

The sights were fun as they drove at a snail's pace behind a horse and buggy.

Some of the interesting items they found in the shops are pictured below - intricate wood carving scenes.

A delicious lunch and then the Christmas shop finished out the day.

Those ladies attending were: Debby Bashaw, Kathy Hudson, Rhonda Samples, Connie Staats, Jane Moore, Sharon Adkins, Leanne Thompson and Sarah Boggs.



Men's Fellowship +

FBC Men's Fellowship and friends were busy serving breakfast to many during the Ohio River Festival weekend. Pancakes, bacon, eggs and more were dished out for happy eaters.



Taking a Break



One of many jobs done behind the scenes of church life was completed.

Alan Arrington and Ron Starkey replaced carpet in the waiting room outside Pastor's office.

Looks great, guys!

Service with a Smile!



CommUnity Kitchen

Lord, Bless our Schools!





FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RAVENSWOOD OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION

This month, we are kicking off our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection for our big packing party in November! Our goal this year is to collect 230 shoeboxes to advance the kingdom of God in countries around the world!

This Month we are collecting **CLOTHING** items! Please bring any items that you have to donate to the OCC bin located under the office window anytime during this month!!

Items we need:

Shirts	Pants
Socks	Undergarments
Flip Flops	Slippers
Scarves	Hats

WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

- Nothing depicting Police, EMS, Military, etc.
- No big or bulky items
- Nothing depicting currency or weapons



Have any Concerns or Questions please feel free to contact Talia Martinez at 304-761-8255, Jordan Williams at 304-531-9076, or Trudy Casto at 509-254-3308!

Focus on Sunday School:



***WELCOME ALL
to Sunday School***

*Moses learned from Jochebed
Isaac learned from Sarah and Abraham
Jacob learned from Isaac and Rebecca
Methuselah learned from Enoch
Enoch was taken to heaven without dying
Noah learned from Lamech
Jesus was born of the virgin Mary
and is the living Son of God*

*There's so much to learn. Help us teach your
child. Come with them to Sunday School.*

Every Sunday at 9:30.

It's amazing what you can learn in Sunday School!

September Birthdays



Janyce Watkins 9-1
Helen Frank 9-2
Perry Vintorini 9-2
Abbi Woods 9-7
Kristi King 9-7
Jim Frazier 9-9
Diana Staats 9-10
Alan Arrington 9-14
Philip Lyons 9-15
Angel Ritchie 9-16
Nathanael Flesher 9-17
Liam Davis 9-17
Gary Balser 9-19
Sami Lawson 9-19
Susan Price 9-25
Susan Gerstell 9-20
Jocelyn Lawson 9-22
Kathy Hudson 9-24
Susan Price 9-25
Sandy Confer 9-27
Cass Bennett 9-29

**Is your name missing?
Tell Susan**

September Calendar

World Mission Offering

Sep 1 Happy Labor Day! Office Closed
Sep 7 Mission Trip to NC
Sep 8 BOCE; Trustee Meetings
Sep 9 Men's Fellowship
Sep 11 First Responders Day
Sep 13 Adult Trip - *Road to Damascus*
Sep 14 Deaconess Meeting
Sep 16 Financial Meeting
Sep 17 Anchor Articles Due
Sep 19 CIRCLE
Sep 19-21 ABWM Spiritual Growth Retreat
Sep 23 Deacons Meeting
Sep 25-28 Ravenswood Harvest in the Woods

* Game Day every Thursday 1:00-3:00 (not on holidays)

**Bible Book of the Month
September 2025
Revelation**



CommUnity Kitchen

**Sep 6 Milhoan Ridge Church
Sep 13 Episcopal Church
Sep 20 Sherry Walker
Sep 27 Kings/McCoys**

*Sign up for
CommUnity Kitchen 2024!*

**Delivery People needed for
CommUnity Kitchen.
Contact Susan**

CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

Prayer for our fellow members is an important part of our relationship with the Lord and helps us to grow closer as a church family. Each day during this month there is a different individual or family that you are asked to include in your prayers.



September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Don VanLehn	2 Ellen Varner & Frances	3 Ken & Perry Vintorini	4 John & Grayce Wagoner	5 Toby & Jennifer Wagoner, Hannah	6 Aaron Wagoner
7 Pauline Walker	8 Philip & Sherry Walker	9 Janyce Watkins	10 Megan Watkins	11 Sharon Weaver	12 Susan West	13 Danny & Kim Westmoreland
14 Dan & Amy Williams	15 Dave & Dena Williams	16 Jordan Williams	17 Jonathan Williams	18 Cara Williams, Marcus	19 Lucas & Samantha Willis, Silas	20 Kerry Wines
21 Jennie Wise	22 Kevin & Abbi Woods	23 Geraldine Wright	24 Brandon & Ashlee Wyant, Connor, Beckett	25 Sharon Adkins	26 Donna Allen	27 Alan & Gusta Arrington
28 Gary & Pam Balser	29 Scott & Katy Baltic	30 Doug & Debby Bashaw				



The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.

Psalms 85:12