

OCTOBER 2023



OWENTON FIRST BAPTIST

*"To be found faithful as God's People."*

# The First Family

## FROM YOUR PASTOR

### **WATCHMAN WANTED!**

The prophet Ezekiel gave a grave warning in chapter thirty-three concerning a responsibility that every child of God will be held accountable. That responsibility is to warn the unbeliever of their impending eternal separation from God and the availability of salvation through Jesus. To neglect this responsibility carries huge ramifications. Ezekiel describes it this way, *"When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand."* When an opportunity to present the Gospel is shunned it not only increases the potential of an unbeliever being forever separated from God in Hell, but it also means we are held accountable for negligence and in some awful way their blood will be upon our hands. I pray that we will determine to have clean hands this month and involve ourselves in ministry opportunities that present themselves to us. Here are a few that need our prayers and participation.

**Family Life Center Volunteers:** We need volunteers to serve during the week days from 8:00am – 1:00pm. Easy opportunity for conversation and new sign ups open the door for presenting the Gospel.

**Operation Christmas Child:** You can personally fill a box and drop it off at the church and come to the packing party and fill boxes. Since 2009 when the discipleship aspect of the ministry started over 35 million have participated in the program and over 17 million have made a profession of faith in Christ.

**Outreach:** Each Monday at 6:30pm we are going out and sharing the Gospel with our neighbors and guests attending worship.

**Fall Festival:** Tuesday, October 31, we will host this annual event. Start bringing in the candy and plan to volunteer. It will take all of us to pull it off. We will then need help following up on all the families that register for the night.

**Meeting the Needs:** The fourth Tuesday of every month we serve in this food and clothing ministry. The morning shift is 11:00am -1:00pm and the evening shift is 6:00-8:00pm. A wonderful opportunity to encourage, pray for, and witness to fellow Owen Countians.

As you can see, Watchmen are needed and wanted! Will you join the ranks and experience the great joy of a witnessing watchman?

Blessings,

Bro. Brad



## WORSHIP & MEDIA MINISTRY

### IT'S FALL, YA'LL!!

I am so excited to finally be in the best season out of all of them! I don't know what I enjoy more about this time of year — the cooler weather, the trees changing color, the pumpkin pie... wait...yeah...it's probably the pumpkin pie!!!

As we official enter into pumpkin pie season, we also get closer and closer to...and I can't believe I'm about to say this before Thanksgiving...Christmas. The choir has started working on our upcoming presentation of Come Worship the King! We are looking forward to presenting this beautiful musical on December 17. Be on the lookout for more info coming soon!

The children have also been busy working on their Christmas musical presentation of Carol and the Belles. Christmas, a 1950's Drive-in Diner, poodle skirts, and Jiffy Pop...that's right...it's gonna' be a rockin' good time!!! Circle December 2 AND 3 on your calendars! More information coming soon!!!

Lastly, I want to leave you with a quote from John Ortberg:

*"I need to worship because without it I can forget that I have a big God beside me and live in fear. I need to worship because without it I can forget his calling and begin to live in a spirit of self-preoccupation. I need to worship because without it I lose a sense of wonder and gratitude and plod through life with blinders on. I need worship because my natural tendency is toward self-reliance and stubborn independence."*

Let's not let the only worship we do be for 20 minutes on Sunday morning. Worship is more than the songs we sing and the prayers we pray, and even the message we hear. It's not relegated to just Sundays. Worship should be something we do daily throughout our week. I want to encourage you to worship daily, worship privately, worship with your family, and then come together on Sunday morning in corporate worship with the family of God.

Someone once said, "Praise and Worship isn't about the lead singer; it's not about who is playing the guitar or who is playing the drums. It's not about the songs we sing or whether the piano is in tune or not. It's about you and God. It's about your relationship with Him. Nothing else matters." Let's let our focus be on Christ and daily take up our cross and follow Him.

*Soli Deo Gloria,*

Bro. Chuck

## MAIN STREET YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello church family!

We kicked off our Sunday night studies this month. We have had a great turnout for both groups. Alli has been leading the girls in a study called "Defined". I have been leading the boys in a study called "Kingdom Authority." Sunday night studies are a special time of growing in our knowledge and love for God so please be in prayer for the students that are participating in these studies and that they will invite others to join us. We will be continuing this study throughout the month of October and wrap up mid-November! If you have a student or know a student that would be interested, it is never too late to join in on these studies!

We are looking forward to taking the youth on an outing in October. It has been a couple months since we have had a gathering outside of church because of school starting back so we are planning a trip (possibly bowling) for this coming month. As always, thank you for trusting me with the students of this church. It is my prayer that they have grown in their faith as much as I have in my time pastoring them.

Blessings,

Ross Ford

## ROOTED CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Dearest church family,

There simply aren't words to express how grateful my family is for the outpouring of love and support during my surgical recovery. From cards, visits and gifts, to meals and prayers, we have felt so loved during this time. I am also so grateful for all the volunteers that have been willing to do a little more than usual to make sure the kids of our church are still being poured into and loved so well. I am healing a little more each day and look forward to being with you again very soon!

As I consider my own gratitude in these days, I am reminded that we are called to rejoice and be grateful in ALL things and in ALL circumstances. Isn't it easy to be grateful when all seems well (and friends and family are bringing you delicious food)? But how grateful are we when we don't understand what God is doing? Maybe when He feels so very far away?

I have a friend with an aggressive brain cancer. We don't know how much time we have with her. But let me tell you something about my friend. She has always been so in love with Jesus and absolutely nothing about that has changed since she had a severe seizure that nearly took her life in July, but thankfully was the alert that a tumor was present. As I sat by her hospital bedside after her first brain surgery, all she wanted to talk about, though her speech was slow and quiet, was how she wanted to be about "Kingdom building"! I was choking back tears with the weight and dire nature of her prognosis, but she only talked about one nurse in particular that she was investing in. She was so intentional about lovingly sharing her sweet Jesus with this nurse and everyone God was bringing into her path.

My sweet friend has also been asking "why not?" Some of her "why not?" questions are kind of funny, as in why not go skydiving sort of stuff, but it is mostly questions of this nature: Why not be bold about my Jesus? Why not call people and move past things that are indeed in the past? Why not surrender your life to what God is doing? He is in control anyway. Why not live in the peace of knowing He never promised it would be easy, only that we wouldn't be alone?

I have told my sister in Christ so many times these past few months that she is changing lives, including mine. Until this time she has been a cautious and private person when it comes to social media, but she is inviting anyone and everyone into her story...God's story in her life, so that she can "Kingdom build" as much as possible.

Would you let her attitude of gratitude change your perspective, even though you've not been blessed enough to meet her? What "less-than-ideal" circumstance in your life is keeping you from being so in love with Jesus that you can rejoice and be grateful in ALL things? Ask God to reveal some cobwebs in the corners of your heart where you might be storing hurt, bitterness, unforgiveness or anything that keeps you from being grateful in all circumstances and all areas of your life.

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)*

Peace and joy,

Kiley

# October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Morning Services</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Evening Service</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Deacon's Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Outreach</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Trustees</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Rooted Kids</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Business Meeting</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth</p> <p>7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Morning Services</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Evening Service</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Outreach</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Rooted Kids</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Mid-week Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth</p> <p>7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Morning Services</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Christmas Practice: <i>Speaking-Parts only</i></p> <p>6:30 p.m. Evening Service</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Rooted Kids</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Mid-week Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth</p> <p>7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>ASSOCIATION FALL QUARTERLY WMU MEETING</p> <p>MONTEREY BAPTIST CHURCH 10:00 A.M.</p> <p>GUEST SPEAKER- KYLE MCDANELL</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Morning Services</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Christmas Practice: Speaking &amp; Non-Speaking parts</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Evening Service</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Outreach</p>	<p>24</p> <p>11:00a-1:00p &amp; 6:00-8:00p Meeting the Needs</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Family Night</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Main Street Youth</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Mission Groups</p> <p>7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Morning Services</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Christmas Practice: Speaking &amp; Non-Speaking parts</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Evening Service</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Outreach</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Fall Festival 6:00-8:00 p.m.</p>				

**MEMORIALS**  
Ken Hanson – David and Anna Schlechty



<b>10/1</b> Bethany Mills	<b>10/10</b> Daniel Banks	<b>10/21</b> Jeffrey Allnutt
<b>10/2</b> Kelsey Gognat	Kalem Juett	Paul Huetten
Heidi Williams	<b>10/13</b> Linda Allnutt	<b>10/22</b> David Hill
<b>10/3</b> Ryan Ellington	Betty Whitehead	<b>10/23</b> Andi Fitzgerald
Quinn Ford	<b>10/15</b> Janice Riddle	<b>10/24</b> Sawyer Stewart
Anita Wainscott	<b>10/16</b> Terri Ghent	<b>10/25</b> Jensen Wainscott
<b>10/4</b> Lindsay Smith	Blake Traylor	<b>10/28</b> Jacob Osborne
Shirley Walker	<b>10/17</b> Terry Patterson	<b>10/30</b> Lesla Marston
<b>10/5</b> Don Allnutt	<b>10/18</b> Alli Gill	Bill Turner
Joshua Cumberland	Hannah Hanson	<b>10/31</b> Ross Ford
Adam Greene	<b>10/19</b> Morgan O'Brien	Cason Locker
<b>10/6</b> Richard Greene	Aaron Sutherland	
Josh Juett	<b>10/20</b> Teena Gamble	
Donna McDonald	Katie Hollingsworth	
<b>10/8</b> Susan Stowe		

<b>OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS</b>
<b><u>NURSERY VOLUNTEERS</u></b>
10/1: Sid & Mitzy Ford
10/8: Bruce & Karen Wash
10/15: Kevin & Gabi Welsh
10/22: Brian & Kelsey Gognat
10/29: Rae Gina & Maleah Beatty
<b><u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</u></b>
<b>Sprouts (pre-K-1st grade)</b>
10/1: Emma B.
10/8: Heidi W.
10/15: Courtney B.
10/22: Jessi W.
10/29: Jenna S.
<b>Seedlings (2nd-5th grade)</b>
10/1: Libby B.
10/8: Kelsey G.
10/15: Heather R.
10/22: Lindsay S.
10/29: Sherry C.

<b>FBC STAFF</b>
Brad Banks — <i>Lead Pastor</i>
Chuck Harris — <i>Worship &amp; Media Pastor</i>
Ross Ford — <i>Youth Pastor</i>
Kiley Blair — <i>Director of Children's Ministry</i>
Susan Stowe — <i>Ministry Assistant</i>


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