



## Pastor Matt's Notes

### *Together Again*

I have often thought that Labor Day is the real American new year. So much change comes during this time. Our schools open and our pools close. The last of the big harvests come out of the garden, people return from vacation, and football is back on TV. Before this month ends, the days will be more dark than light. September is a great time to roll up our sleeves and get busy, a great time to establish productive habits and settle in. We have been working a great deal this summer to get ready for the fall. That work, organizing office space, painting, addressing maintenance and budget issues, etc., are all things a church must do. But they are not what a church is. In my first sermon as your pastor I made the statement that “A church is a family that worships Jesus Christ, and that’s just about it.” This is what we see at the very formation of the church in the Book of Acts. The foci of church life 2,000 years ago were worship, fellowship and service to one another. Frankly, not much has changed. As you get started in your “new year,” please remember that the most important work you can do for our church is simply to show up. Be in service on Sunday, sing loudly and pray earnestly. Stay after service and enjoy the company of those who have looked forward to worshipping with you all week. Your presence truly is a blessing to the rest of us.

## Ministry Updates

### *Study the Bible Together*

#### **10:00 am Bible Classes**

- Children: K-2 & Grades 3-5 Classes  
Yearlong Bible Journey-New Testament
- Preschool Bible Class
- Family Nursery and Toddler Room in Room 9 with a livestream viewing

#### **11:00 am Bible Classes**

- Child care for infants-toddlers  
(volunteers needed)
- K-5th Grade Bible Class  
Active games & lessons to “move” you to obey God
- Teens: Yearlong Bible Study  
The Thread-See the Gospel in every book
- Adult Options:  
Bible in a Year, Study of Matthew  
Young Families Fellowship  
Spiritual Gifts (3 weeks)

#### **4:30-6:30 pm AWANA**

Ages 4-12 learn Bible verses and get to know God better in an exciting club  
Register your children online



### **Verse of the Month**

*"Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people.  
And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.  
Acts 2:46-47.*

## SEPTEMBER EVENTS

### **Sunday, September 4**

10:00 am Pancake Breakfast  
11:00 am Casual Worship

### **Sunday, September 11**

10 & 11 New classes begin  
4:30 AWANA begins

### **Tuesday, September 13**

7:00 pm  
Mission & Ministry Meeting

### **Friday, September 16**

6:00 pm  
Prayer Group Meeting

### **Sunday, September 18**

Sandwich Making

### **Tuesday, September 20**

7:00 pm  
Admin Group Meeting

### **Wednesday, September 21**

6:30 pm  
Outdoor Worship & Dinner

### **Tuesday, September 27**

Men's Bible & BBQ

## WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

### **Sundays**

10:00 am Worship Service and Children's Classes  
11:00 Fellowship  
11:15 Bible Classes for Kids, Teens and Adults  
4:30 pm AWANA

### **Wednesdays**

8:30 am Ladies' Breakfast  
9:00 am Men's Breakfast  
7:00 pm Choir Practice

### **LOOKING AHEAD Sunday, October 30**

3:00-5:00 pm  
Fall Festival

# Mission Updates

## What Happened?

- **Teacher Gift Baskets**

We will deliver gift baskets to each of the four elementary schools in Crofton. Gift of blessing and our prayers.

- **The Light House**

75 sandwiches were made and delivered along with water and chips.

## What's Next? September Collections

- **Operation Christmas Child**

Donate some school supplies. We will help our AWANA kids pack boxes in November. Crayons, colored pencils, pencils & sharpener, pads of paper, watercolors, pencil box, erasers, glue stick, tape, stickers--any school or art supply that will fit in a shoe box.

- **Crofton Caring Food Bank**

Donate cereal this month to stock their shelves. This ministry feeds many people in the county.

- **Sandwiches for Light House**

The teens are heading up the sandwich making this month. They will collecting \$50.00 to buy supplies for 100 sandwiches. If you would like to help, drop your donation in the jar at the kitchen window. Sandwich making will be on September 18 after the service.



## Mission Highlight: CCCC

First Baptist participates in the Crofton Christian Caring Council, which is a group of local churches who have joined together to combine funds in order to reach more local individuals and families in need. The CCCC operates a food pantry (housed at Elizabeth Ann Seton on 424) and a baby pantry (offering diapers, formula, and some other baby supplies, housed at Community United Methodist on Reidel Road). In addition, CCCC provides financial assistance to Crofton-area residents who need help with rent and utilities. Volunteers work with residents to sort out paperwork and help them access funding through the County or other providers, and CCCC also can help pay a portion of those bills directly.

# Meet Henry McGowen



**Henry McGowen** is one of our new class of FBC Deacons! The McGowen family moved to Crofton on January 1, 2021. They visited various churches and prayed for guidance in finding their new church home. At first they thought that the church across the street might be “too good to be true,” but they felt at home right away. Through prayer, they knew this was where God was calling their family to worship and serve. This is actually Henry’s *fourth* “First Baptist Church.” He grew up at a First Baptist in Texas and was also a member of a First Baptist in another town in Texas much later in life, and then again in New Mexico. Henry and Suzanne have two daughters, Madeleine (9th grade) Genevieve (5th grade).

Henry says he is honored to serve as a deacon here and considers it a privilege to pray for and serve members of this church. He recently started playing guitar with the music team and has also taught Sunday School here.

Henry and Suzanne both prioritize spending time in Scripture and prayer every morning before the girls wake up. Having quiet time in the Word early helps start the day with a mind tuned to hear God’s voice, and Henry also uses his morning commute (which does not involve stressful highways) to continue to reflect and pray. When he is wrestling with a particular issue, he says, he prays and seeks God’s guidance persistently, even when sometimes it takes time to discern God’s wisdom and feel peace. He often plays the guitar and praises the Lord in the evenings after work, too. Recently, Henry has been inspired by the life of King David and through reading the Psalms. He also has always enjoyed the wisdom gained by reading through Proverbs and says that Proverbs 3:5-6 has always been particularly encouraging, to remind him to truly trust in the Lord.

# SERMONS FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

## September 4

Casual family worship  
after breakfast  
Testimonies & Singing  
Devotional

## September 11

*Commanded to love*  
John 13:31-35

## September 18

*I want to know love*  
John 14:15-24

## September 25

*The Vine and the Branches*  
John 15:1-17



## September

**5**-Jennifer Russell  
**13**-Garrett Carr  
**14**-Rosie MacCredie  
**16**-Charles Block  
**19**-Nancy Strong  
**25**-Peggy Painter  
**27**-Michael Eckard  
**27**-Ryan MacCredie  
**27**-Becky MacCredie  
**27**-Mark Overmier  
**29**-Lisa McKnew

Are we missing your birthday? Then fill out a Contact Form so we celebrate you, too! Use a paper Contact Form or log into our website. (fbccrofton.org)



- Workers to update the basement: painting, cleaning, trash removal
- One person to teach the K-2 class once a month at 10:00
- One person to teach Grades 3-5 once a month at 10:00
- Helpers for AWANA
- Teachers for the teen class--once a month
- Nursery and Toddler workers for 10:00 and 11:00

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