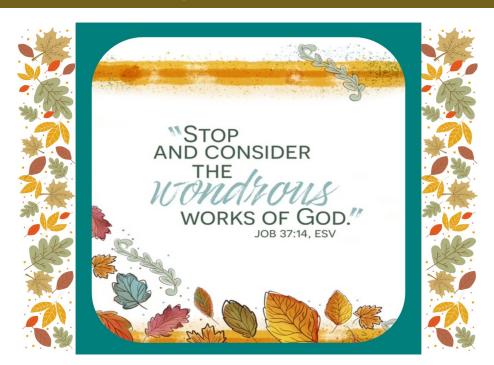
Encourager Walker Baptist Church

1350 West Main St., Franklin, TN 37064 615-794-7000 www.walkerbc.org

October/November 2025



"Let us not give up meeting together... but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the day approaching." – Hebrews 10:25

By the time you read this, our 20th annual Fish Fry will be in the books. That singular event is always a highlight on our church calendar, and one may wonder why. Why spend so much time and energy on one thing? The answer is actually rather simple, and it's this: the Fish Fry isn't about fish. It's about so much more.

It's about teamwork. Just about every active member of our church has a role in the Fish Fry, and there are others who give their time and energy who don't even attend Walker. The value of cooperation and teamwork is a lesson worth teaching, no matter how old we are. Sports and other extra-curricular activities teach this valuable lesson to our children, as you parents well know. Why should that lesson end just because we've graduated to adulthood? The Bible teaches us to care for one another, to encourage one another, and to use our gifts and talents for the benefit of one another. Our Fish Fry offers a wonderful opportunity to do just that.

It's about community outreach. Our church sees more people enter our building on this day than any other day of the year, and this includes Easter Sunday and Christmas Eve! Our prayer is that for those who come to Fish Fry, they see us at our best, working, smiling, welcoming, singing, praying, and if they're searching for a church home, they'll consider Walker.

It's about exposure. People often drive by our church weekly, or daily, and never give a second thought to the fact that this building actually houses a vibrant, loving community of believers. Fish Fry reminds them that we are more than a building. We are a spiritual family.

It's about connection. We get to match names and faces. Those who come to Fish Fry get to meet the Senior Pastor, the Worship Pastor, the Youth Pastor, and we often get to meet some famous and not-so-famous residents of our beautiful town. Who knows, there's probably even some networking going on!

It's about fund-raising. I list this one at the end, because I don't want us to think this is the main reason why we do what we do. To be sure, Fish Fry began as a way to pay down the debt on the mortgage on the church addition, but it has funded so much more than that. We have paid off the debt, paid for mission trips, funded community projects, renovated the sanctuary, made other building improvements, and even used some of the funds to do things like pay medical bills, rent, car repairs, groceries, and utilities.

From the Pastor

We praise you, O Lord, for 20 years of all of the above!

Pastor Chuck

Greetings, Walker Baptist Church Family!

The last couple of weeks have been a challenging time to be a Christian. In considering what I might write for this article, I was reminded of a sermon by an unknown pastor that my wife Elaura heard regarding the devil's desire to disrupt God's work in our lives. 2 Timothy 2:22-26 NIV says:

²² Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. ²³ Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. ²⁵ Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

The essence of the sermon that my wife listened to talked about being on guard for the snares of the devil. Like an expert hunter designs traps for a specific animal's size, habits, and environment, Satan designs traps for our bodies, souls, hearts, and minds. Without the help of Jesus, we are extremely vulnerable to falling into them. However, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can recognize these snares before we step in them, and when we deviate from the path and fall into them, He is there to free us back on our feet.

Satan has trapped and taken hold of many in this world. In the wake of Charlie Kirk's death, I have watched the vitriol hatred that many of his opponents have spewed, praising his assassination and wishing it on others like him. While I instinctively want to meet them at their level, the Bible tells me not to. It tells me to not engage with such foolishness, stupidity, and evil, as that sort of wickedness is beyond my human ability to overcome.

A trapped animal is usually scared and dangerous, even when someone tries to help it. People are much the same. Let us resist the temptation to enter the same traps of anger, hatred, and violence that have ensnared many unbelievers. We are called to boldly proclaim the gospel, but to do so with the same grace that God has shown to us. Do not lose heart, but take courage in what we still have according to 1 Corinthians 13:13 NIV:

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

In Christ,

Troy Guttormson



WALKER BAPTIST CHURCH PROUDLY SPONSORS



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

October 12—November 23, 2025

- 1. Pick up a shoebox from the welcome center
- 2. Fill it with gifts and love (see flyers for appropriate items)
- 3. Include a check for \$10 to cover shipping and handling
- 4. Bring the completed box to the church by November 23



CHECK THE DISPLAY
TABLE IN THE
WELCOME CENTER FOR
MORE INFORMATION

Walker Baptist Church



WALKER'S COMPASSION CORNER

A New Ongoing Missions Project



Walker's Compassion Corner is a community-driven initiative dedicated to embodying Christ's love by providing essential items like clothing, shoes, toiletries, and household goods to families in need. We urgently seek donations to support our mission of offering dignity and hope to those we serve. Your contributions can make a tangible difference in creating a welcoming environment where every family can experience Walker's compassion and care.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

- Volunteers * Hangers * Toiletries
- Gently used clothing (men's, women's, boys, girls)
- Shoes (all sizes)
 * Household essentials
- Donate items through Amazon https://a.co/gc1zk0k

Join us in making a difference by donating today. Your generosity helps us extend a helping hand to those in need, ensuring they receive the support and care they deserve.



SUPPER MENUS * all meals include dessert and beverage							
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER						
Oct. 1 PIZZA, PIZZA, PIZZA, SALAD	Nov. 5 BEEFY NACHO BAR						
Oct. 8 FALL BREAK—NO SUPPER	Nov. 12 CHICKEN N' DUMPLINGS, GREEN BEANS, BUTTERED CORN, SALAD						
Oct. 15 CHILI/SOUP COOKOFF	Nov. 19 SANDWICH BAR, CHIPS						
Oct. 22 GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST, ROASTED POTATOES, ROASTED VEGETABLES, SALAD	Nov. 26 THANKSGIVING BREAK -NO SUPPER						
Oct. 29 FALL FESTIVAL—HOT DOGS, CHIPS							

Make or cancel reservations by noon on Tuesday.
Prices: Adults \$5, Children 4-10 \$4
Call the church office at 615-794-7000 or email ask@walkerbc.org



The 20th Fish Fry at Walker is "in the books". It would not have been possible without so many people donating many hours of time and effort. A special thank you to Marti for her dedication to making the Fish Fry a success, and to the over 115 volunteers who represented Walker in such a positive way!



OCTOBER 15, 2025 5:15 PM

CALLING ALL FALL COOKS!! ENTER YOUR FAVORITE HOME-MADE CHILI OR SOUP TO WIN A PRIZE!

Supper is free, but please make a reservation if you plan to attend. If you aren't entering the contest, please bring bread, crackers, or desserts to enjoy with the chili/soup. Contact Marti if you have any questions.



FALL FESTIVAL FUN FOR ALL!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2025 6:00—7:30 pm



DECORATE A CAR OR TRUCK, PUT ON YOUR FAVORITE COSTUME, BRING TREATS TO PASS OUT, AND JOIN US! Hot Dogs for Trunk or Treaters served outside.

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER Sunday, November 16, 2025 5:00 PM

Bring your family and join us for a churchwide fellowship, celebrating the blessings we have received from God this year. Deacons will provide Turkey and Dressing. Suggested items from church members include:

Adults 65 & over Vegetables

Adults 45-54 Salads

Adults under 45 Desserts

Children, Youth Cranberry Sauce

Bread



NURSERY

SCHEDULE



October 5	5	Rhonda Gatlin.	Marlee Donoho	Nov	2	Marie McElhannon,	Louise Austin
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October 12 Rachel Brennan, Laura Powell Nov 9 Linda Garnette, Kody Leonard

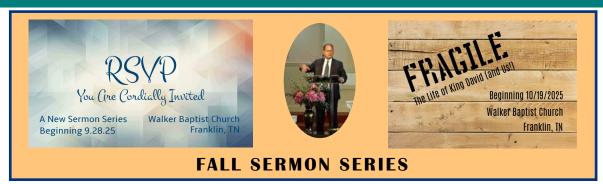
October 19 Emily Sanders, Volunteer Nov 16 Austin Godwin, Debra Mangrum

October 26 Chris & Kelley Wheeler Nov 23 Jennifer Leonard, Kody Leonard

Nov 30 Volunteers Needed

If you are not able to keep your date, please try to trade with someone. If you need assistance please call or text Jennifer Leonard at 615-604-9457

A few more volunteers are needed to serve in the nursery during the Worship Service. If we have more volunteers each person would only be scheduled for one Sunday every other month. Please contact Jennifer if you are willing to help love on our youngest. Thank you!





GREETERS

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

Emily Sanders

Elaine Thompson



STAFF

Chuck McElhannon Senior Pastor

Wally Whidby Youth Pastor

Troy Guttormson Worship Pastor

Connie Bernard Administrative Asst.

CONTACT INFORMATION

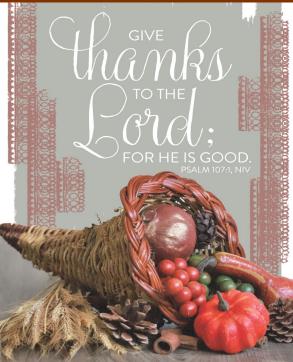
Church Telephone 615-794-7000

Church/Connie ask@walkerbc.org

Chuck chuck@walkerbc.org

Wally walkerbc.org

Troy troy@walkerbc.org



October 2025

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	WEDNESDAY S Fellowship Dinner Pre-School, Children, Youth She-Shed Adult Bible Study Adult Choir	5:15-6:00 6:00-7:20 6:15-7:20 6:25-7:20 7:30-8:30	SHOE BOX COLLECTION BEGINS OCT. 12th	1 Camille Bost	2	3 Tom Conrad	4
5 DE 44	Avery Lunn 6		7	8 Theresa Rogers	9 Rachel Brennan Vonda Hazelwood	10	11 Barbara Guttormson
DEA	CON'S MEETING	WCS and	FSD FALL BR	EAK—NO WEI	DNESDAY ACT	FIVITIES	
4 pm 5 pm UPD	Sulfridge TEAM MTGS MINISTRY	3	14	15 FINANCE MTG CHILI/ SOUP COOK- OFF	16	17	18 Nita Potts
19	2	0 Kevin Adair	21	22 Flo Young	23	24	25
26	2	7	28 Joanne Fields Justin Stelter	29 FALL FESTIVAL	30	31	

November 2025

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2 Sarah Kibler	3 Elaine Thompson	4 Audrey Batson Tim Brennan	5 Gregg LaFever	6	7	8 Marie McElhannon Wally Whidby Carter Massey
BUDGET DISCUSSION	10 Daisy Whidby	Remember Our VETERANS	12	13	14 Brenda Darnell Dixie Hogue	15
16 BUDGET VOTE Church-wide Thanksgiving Dinner	17 Karen Whidby	18	19 Kody Leonard	20	21	22
23 Linda Ramsey	24	25	26 NO ACTIVITIES	27 Andrew Poe Happy Ganksguing	28	29
30 IMB WEEK OF PRAYER BEGINS	NOVEMBER 23rd LAST DAY TO BRI CHRISTMAS SHOE	NG			FICE CLOSED R 27 and 28th	