



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GETTYSBURG NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026

What's Happening



August At A Glance

Sunday, August 2nd, Communion Sunday

Saturday, August 9th, Fusion Youth Cookout & Swim Party
6pm-9pm at the Hurda's

Sunday, August 16th, 2026 Combined Service Kid's for Christ Musical
at 10:00am with Picnic to Follow

Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes

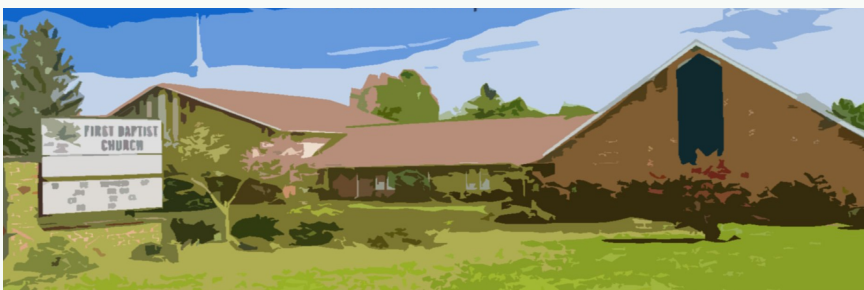
The Life of Joseph (McBeth / Damerill) 9:00am Lewis Hall

The Holy Spirit (Punchard) 10:30am Lewis Hall

Youth—Middle & High School 9:00am in the Youth Room

Children's SBF 9am Class—Kids for Christ Musical Lewis Hall

Children's Church - The Gospel Project (ages K-5th grade) 10:30am Lewis Hall
(begins in the sanctuary with families, children are dismissed after worship)



Sunday Services

9:00am Traditional

10:30am Contemporary₁

from the Pastor's Desk



What is the Church and What is Her Mission?

If someone asked you, "What is the church and what is her mission" how would you respond?

Search the scriptures and you will find that the church is not an optional gathering place of loosely affiliated believers, but is a God-ordained assembly of those whom Christ has saved. The Church is a pillar and buttress of truth (1 Timothy 3:15) where each attendee is called to use their God-given gifts to encourage and build each other up (1 Corinthians 12:12-27, Ephesians 1:22-23) while accomplishing Christ's work here on earth until his return (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

The Church is God's Body (1 Corinthians 12:27). His Bride (Revelation 19:7-9). His Ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:20), through whom he continues his ministry in the world through the power of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4, 2 Corinthians 5). An assembly of those he redeemed and empowered to shine like stars in this broken and dark world (Matthew 5:14-15, Philippians 2:14-15) until the day He returns and takes us to eternally be with him. The Church is not derived by human reasoning, feelings, nor the political views of the day, but is established by Christ (Matthew 16:18), defined and directed by his Word, and empowered by his Spirit, Truth and Love.

The Church is not owned by its charter members, nor the family with the most influence or affluence, nor any pastor or board. The Church is the Lord's, made up of those who have been purchased and redeemed by the blood of the Lamb to do his bidding on earth until he returns.

Before his ascension, Jesus commanded his followers to, "Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that he had command" (Matthew 28:18-19). We are not here to build ministry empires or entertain crowds, but to preach Christ crucified, risen and coming again soon.

from the Pastor's Desk



(continued)

Our mission is to those in our families, neighborhoods and workplaces as we ourselves purpose to be rooted, growing and serving, ready to give the reason for the hope that we have in this life and for the next (1 Peter 3:15)!

Where do you fit in God's magnificent plans for his Church? Are you actively participating in family life and using your God-given gifts to edify her (The Church)? God has a place for you and you are needed. Walk in his love and truth and participate in his church being the light of the world.

Through God's purposes and power, the church will continue to advance God's kingdom on earth until his imminent return. Are you about the Lord's mission and ready for his return? Are your loved ones and neighbors ready? If not, what will you do about this? Share and live out your faith that they might see your good deeds and praise the Lord on the day of his return! Why not invite those not currently attending church to join you in worship, discipleship, service and reaching others with the Good News! Thankful to be part of what God is doing through you FBCG!

- Pastor Carl

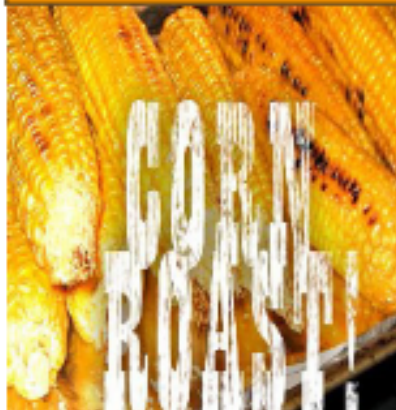
August Events & Info

Fusion Youth August Birthday Game Night!!! Invite your friends!!! August 9th!!!

There Is No Fusion Youth On August 16th.

UPDATED DATE Fusion Cookout & Swim Night!!!

August 9th bring your friends (permission slip required) to a fun filled night of food, fellowship, swimming, & food! Did I mention FOOD! We will be at the Hurda's house (120 Liberty Lane, Aspers, PA 17304) from 6-9pm & would love for you to join us! Please see Matt & Faith to get signed up. If you can, please bring a side dish or desert to share. Swimming will be in a pond, so please bring something to wear on your feet. Please contact Matt or Faith to get signed up. Can't wait to see you then!



All Church Corn Roast & Hot Dog Lunch!!!

(Hosted by Fusion Youth Ministry)

August 16th after the KFC Musical the Fusion Youth are hosting an All Church Corn Roast & Hot Dog Lunch!!! ALL are invited! We will have plenty of corn on the cob & hot dogs for all! Please bring a side or desert to share. The playground, volleyball, basketball, 4-9 square, & kickball will be open for everyone to enjoy on this day of fellowship & fun!

YOUTH we can use your help husking the corn at the KFC practice on Saturday July 15th (time TBD) & setting up on Sunday July 16th before & after the musical.

Get ready for one of the greatest Christian music festivals!!! That's right! Uprise Festival 2026! September 11th-12th!!! Please go online at www.uprisefest.com to purchase your ticket. We will cover transportation & breakfast Saturday & Sunday mornings. Please bring money for meals on Friday night (McDonalds EVERYONE PAYS FOR THEIR OWN MEAL) & Saturday (food vendors). We will be spending the night at FBCG on Friday night! Drop off will be 2:30pm Friday & pickup will be late Saturday night at church. Please see Faith or Matt with any questions.

THE SIGNUP DEADLINE IS SUNDAY AUGUST 16TH.

WE HAVE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF SEATS TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE. SO IT WILL BE FIRST COME (SIGN-UP) FIRST SERVE. SO PLEASE SIGN-UP ASAP.



Father Son Camp 2025

How does a young boy grow into a man? A man of values? A man of principle? A godly man? In a world ripe with confusion and conflicting messages, the pathway to manhood is anything but easy to navigate.

While we certainly can't correct all of the spiritual and social woes in a single four-day weekend, we can strive to come alongside fathers who want to do everything possible to make the most of the fleeting years of boyhood. Come join us on this weekend of investment.

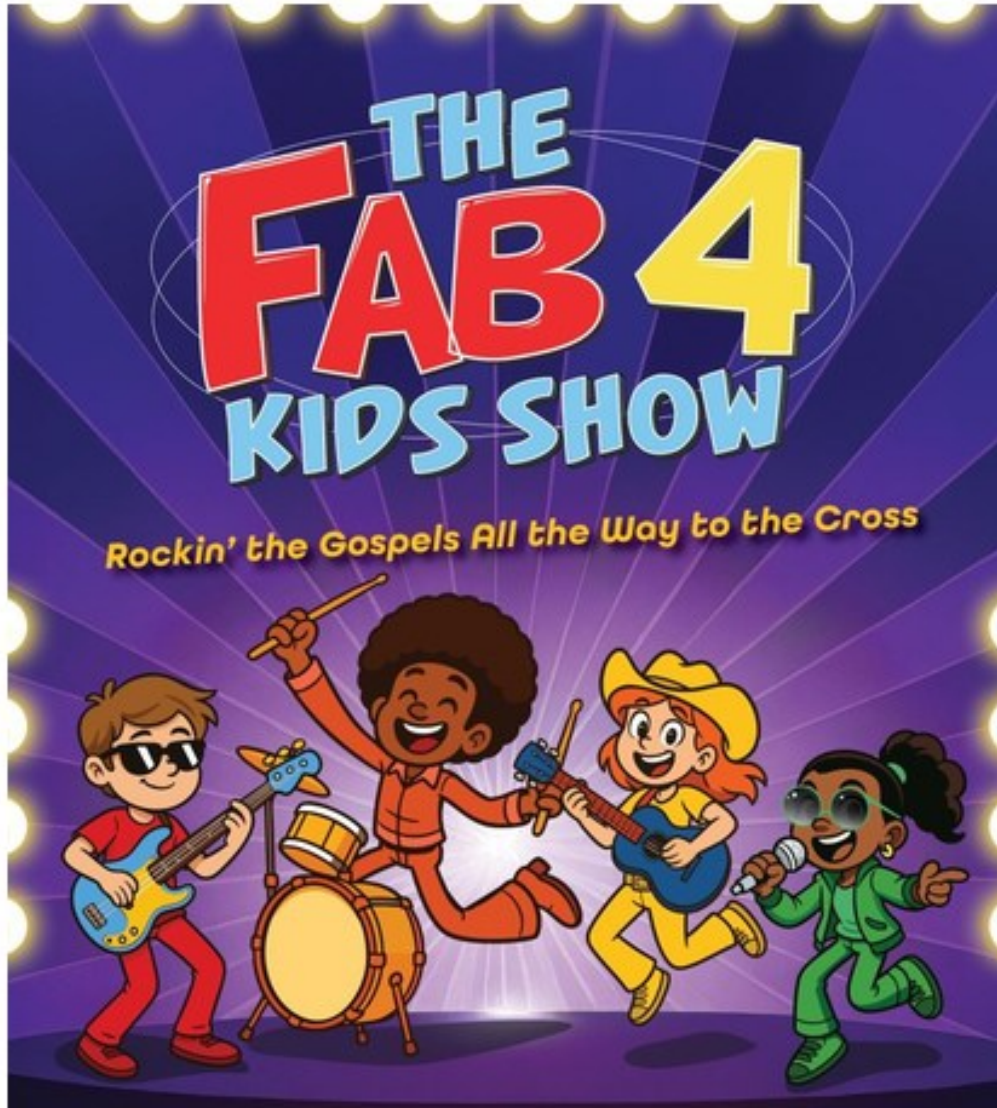
Children must be 6-year-old or older to attend.

Go to <https://www.fathersoncampeast.org/> to get more information & register or contact Matt or Faith

September 24-27

- If you have any questions about these events please contact Pastor Matt 443-846-5094
- Check us out on Facebook at [FUSION Youth Ministry](#) & get the FUSION Youth app!

Kids for Christ Present:



**Sunday, August 16th
@10 am**

Picnic & Youth Corn Roast to follow



Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed

Registration

Now Open



First Meeting:

Wednesday, Sept 16th
@5:45 pm

Summer Office Hours

9am–12pm noon

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Call (717)334-2564 for
appointments or email
FBCAdmin@fbcgettysburg.net



OFFICE CLOSED
MONDAY, SEPT. 7TH FOR
LABOR DAY



A.C.P.M. Meeting

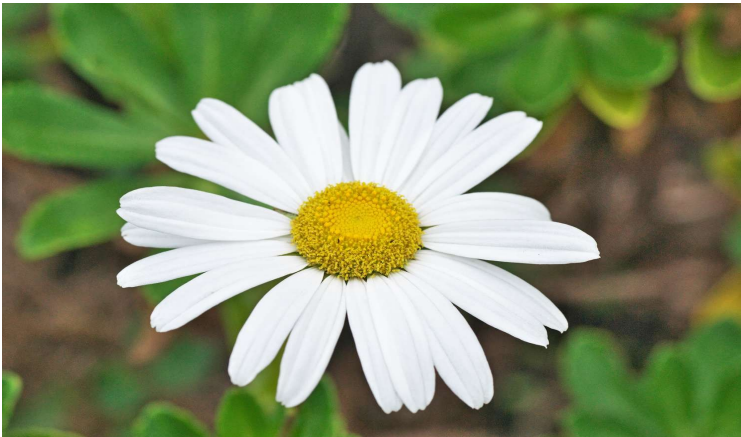
August 24th, 2026

10 AM to noon at FBC

AUGUST 30TH

is the 5th Sunday of the month.

There is NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH and children stay with their families in the sanctuary. There will be a short "Kid's sermon" and children are welcome to go forward to sit and listen. Reminder to Parents: This will be live streamed!



W2 GROUP

Sunday, May 30th
following the second service.
Guest Speaker Loren Lustig



Paused for summer

The next Men's Breakfast
will be September 19th

Gospel of Luke Zoom

6:30-7:45pm

2nd/4th Tuesday - Ladies Only! Email
Jennefer Harris for more information:
jenneferwharris@gmail.com

Mid-Week Bible Studies (Paused for the Summer)



Deeper Still (Biweekly on **Tuesdays**)
Will resume Sept. 8th at Noon bring some-
thing to share, study begins at 1pm.
This group will be finishing John Beck's
"Along the Road" for two or three weeks,
then will start "Learning to Love Leviticus" in
October. **Contact Wanda Gallimore** for
more information.

Mid-Week Bible Studies (Paused for the Summer)

Bible Study in James (**Thursdays**)
Will resume Mid September in the Youth
Room. **Led by Mark Punchard**, this study
meets weekly on Thursdays at 9:30am



MONTHLY PRAYER GATHERING

Next Prayer Gathering: Sunday, August 23rd, 2026 at 6:00pm

Join us on the 4th Sunday of each month for a night of praise, scripture reading and prayer! Jesus declared to His followers that His House is to be a "House of Prayer" (Matthew 21:13), and although I consider FBCG to be a praying church, I truly believe that the Lord wants to "do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20-21), and this will be best accomplished by God working through our prayers and petitions.

In light of all that God is doing in and through our church, I invite you to join me, along with other devoted prayer warriors, as we come together before the Lord. Let us approach Him with hearts and minds full of expectation, trusting that He is both able and willing to accomplish "greater things" in our midst.

Let it not be said of us that we did not have because we simply did not ask (James 4:2). But rather, may it be said we asked much and it pleased the Lord to respond in doing great things among us, our families, community, county, state and world. May our prayers result in advancing God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Thank you for your prayers offered in faith and your consideration in being part of these prayer gatherings!

His blessings and love,

Pastor Carl G Harris

Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. - Jeremiah 33:3 (ESV)

*⁷"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!
Matthew 7:7-11 (ESV)*

*²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.
Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)*



God is using shoeboxes every day

Hands of Hope Shoebox Ministry

As a church family, we are blessed to be the hands and feet of Jesus through Operation Christmas Child. Each shoebox we pack is more than a gift; it is a mission of love that carries the hope of the Gospel to children around the world. Through our prayers, generosity, and willingness to serve, God uses these simple boxes to touch hearts, open doors for ministry, and remind children that they are deeply loved and never forgotten. Together, our congregation is making an eternal impact, sharing Christ's light and fulfilling the Great Commission—one shoebox at a time.

As you know, the \$10 donation covers so much more than shipping. It covers training, materials, and The Greatest Gift booklet, now translated into the Chapra (Peru) language! The Greatest Gift booklet is the beginning of transformation and salvation in the lives of many of these children and their families. Here's a link about other "Ways to Give." <https://samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/ways-to-give/>

If you would like to support this ministry, donated items may be placed in the small box in the baptism room behind the sanctuary, or give to a shoe box team member. **Monetary donations may be placed in the offering plate—please mark your envelope "Shoeboxes."**

Suggested donation for this month: washcloths, toothbrushes, and yarn.

I invite you to take a moment to watch the video below.

<https://video.samaritanspurse.org/the-life-changing-power-found-within-a-shoebox/>

Blessings,

The ShoeBox Team

MISSIONS

...at home and around the world



Missions Updates: August 2026

Thomas and Cheri Henry

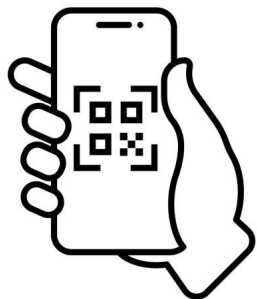
Thomas and Cheri have been busy traveling this year, ministering to global workers through their marriage and singles intensives programs, called Deeper Marriages and Deeper Friendships respectively. They were in Ammon, Jordan this past spring. Through their efforts, they have been able to establish cohort offshoots of their program that will continue to meet and keep the work moving forward. Cheri continues to minister workers through using resources from Deeper Walk International, finding personal growth and opportunities to share the paths to spiritual freedom with others. Currently, the Henry's are stateside seeing to family matters, reconnecting with friends, celebrating the US's 250th birthday. Please keep the Henry's in your prayer as they make their way back to England, continue their work in the Middle East, and prepare for permanent relocation to the US in 2028.

Michelle Stockman

Michelle has been busy serving her community through VBS, Sunday children's classes, and caring for her neighbors in any way they need and she is able. This is the wet season in Belize. Tropical storms with their heavy downpours reek havoc on the communities, flooding creeks and wiping out homes. This past month, Michelle shared a video of the creek by her home that flooded the area; the water was like a river under her home (which is elevated on blocks). They had to shut down her home and move into the girls' home in front to stay dry. Praise the Lord, they were all safe. They are busy now with clean up – the floods brought a lot of garbage that got deposited in her yard. She also has to fix the fencing that got wiped out from the flood. Please pray for Michelle and her daughters as they continue to serve in Belmopan.

Stephanie Punchard

As many of you know, "our" Stephanie is home! She had a successful double knee replacement surgery in July and is recovering at home under her dad's watchful care. Before coming home, Steph completed another round of study through Deeper Walk International, the same program that Cheri Henry is doing, a powerful and rewarding training on inner healing prayer and spiritual warfare. Please pray for her full recovery and ease of rehab, for her team that remains in Topaz, and for the Lord to continue the work He started in her Topaz friends' lives. Also remember in your prayers the kiddos in her Bible study and her piano students as they feel her absence.



It's a snap!

GIVING



FBC WEBPAGE



REACH OUT TO US FOR SUPPORT



We all go through hard times.

When you are suffering or a loved one is sick or has passed away, please reach out to the church office to let us know.

You are part of a loving, compassionate church family who wants to help.

Keeping us informed helps us to know how to pray for you and meet your needs.

We are here for you!

717-334-2564

feel free to leave a message

Our Ministry Team

Senior Pastor

Rev. Carl G. Harris
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Associate Pastor

Sean Fitzgerald
fitzgerald08@fbcgettysburg.net 717-713-7948

Youth Pastor

Pastor Matt Rice
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Traditional Worship Leader

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Christian Education Director

Abi Miller
amiller@fbcgettysburg.net

Administrator

Open
FBCAdmin@fbcgettysburg.net

SonShine Christian Preschool

Director: Natalie Potter
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Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Fridays 8:30 -12:30

Mailing Address:

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Telephone:

717-334-2564

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

www.fbcgettysburg.net