



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GETTYSBURG NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

What's
Happening



Rooted in Faith
Spring Festival
Saturday, May 2nd 1-4pm

Hymn Sing!
Sunday, May 17th @ 6:00pm

Life Line Screening

Wednesday, May 27th
8:30am - 5:30pm

from the Pastor's Desk



Two weeks ago, we celebrated one of the greatest weeks in the life of the church- Easter week! Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, died in our place and paid the penalty for our sins that we might have life, forgiveness, the Holy Spirit! Hope in this life and resurrection hope in the next!

Praise be to God for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ!! But there is another wonderful reason that God sent his One and Only Son to earth. That reason was identified by Jesus as he spoke to Pontius Pilate, "for this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." (John 18:37).

Many today declare that truth is not an absolute but arbitrary and changing, derived from experiences, feelings, bias, and perspectives based merely on the philosophies of man. But in this we find a lie, for absolute truth is established and defined by the One who has created our world and redeemed us through his Son, Jesus Christ, and like him, his truth is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

When truth is not known, darkness, deception, depravity and death prevail. But God's truth sets us free! Truth exposes the lies and darkness in this world and enables us to walk in the Light of Christ. Walking and living in God's truth is also the place where blessings from the Lord are found and where we find wholeness, wellness, life, place, belonging and true freedom!

Truth has always been under attack... we find it being twisted and supplanted in the garden. Even though God had spoken truth concerning the tree of life, yet this was subtly questioned and reframed by our enemy, and because Adam believed and acted on this, darkness, brokenness and sin came into all of humankind.

As Christ followers, we must purpose to learn God's truth, allowing it to transform our minds and ask for Christ's help to walk and live in. When we fail, we can confess this to the Lord and others (James 5:16) and find forgiveness and help (1 John 1:9). The apostle Paul (1 Timothy 3:15) declared that the "household of God, which is the church of the living God, is a pillar and buttress of the truth."

God has deemed that it would be his church on earth that would serve as the pillar and buttress (foundation and support) of truth; not the government, not the supreme court judges, not Hollywood, not the media, the popular vote, nor the minority. .

The truth of God's Word has been preserved and disseminated throughout the ages by the church. We not only bear a responsibility to meditate on God's truth and obey his Word, but to lovingly and unapologetically lift it up to those outside the church!

Being the bearers of God's truth to a broken world is one of the major roles and functions of the church. We should not be ashamed to speak God's truths, but must always make sure that when we do, we do so with His love, humility and compassion. Speaking and standing on God's word in today's culture might just be the hardest thing that God will call us to do. But do it we must. We must not cower, or be ashamed, fearful or make excuses.

Being a pillar and foundation of truth will require that we are able to explain and describe God's word, which will require that we have read it, studied it, and prayerfully considered ways to assimilate it.

Jesus declared in the gospel of John (8:31-32), "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Jesus also declared in John 3:21 that, "whoever lives by the truth comes into the light." Friends may we live in the Light and allow it to shine for those who are struggling in darkness.

Blessings and His Joy,
Pastor Carl

******The Elders are again working with the Christian Education Board to provide training and ministry opportunities on Wednesday nights (6:30pm-8pm) during the summer months. Topics being discussed include a parenting class, a class on apologetics (defending your faith), and training to aid you to be better equipped to share the gospel with family, neighbors, co-workers.*

May Events & Info

Fusion Youth May Birthday Game Night!!! Invite your friends!!! May 3rd!!!

There Is No Fusion Youth On May 10th & 24th.



Spring Festival Community Outreach!!!

Come out & help our church with our 1st ever Spring Festival Community Outreach!!! We need your help to make this happen!!! There are many stations to serve in. From crafts, & games, to story time and more! Come be a part of sharing God's love with our community in a fun and meaningful way.

The date is May 2nd from 1pm-4pm. You can sign-up to help with this event in the youth room.

Parent Meeting

We're excited to invite you to a parent meeting to discuss our Fusion Summer events and answer any questions you may have. We're especially looking forward to welcoming our 5th graders as they move up to youth group! The meeting is May 17th at 5:30 PM in Youth Room.

We hope to see you there!



**MAY SHE BE BLESSED WITH STRENGTH AND GRACE,
WITH LOVE THAT SHINES IN EVERY PLACE.
MAY JOY AND PEACE BE HERS TODAY—
FOR ALL SHE GIVES ALONG LIFE'S WAY.**

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!

DON'T FORGET TO SIGNUP FOR FATHER DAUGHTER CAMP JULY 30TH-AUGUST 2ND & FATHER SON CAMP SEPTEMBER 24TH-27TH. THIS WILL BE A WEEKEND THAT WILL BUILD RELATIONSHIPS & MEMORIES THAT WILL LAST FOREVER. SEE MATT OR FAITH FOR MORE DETAILS.



FUSION Girls Night!!!

Faith is planning a fun-filled evening just for our Middle & High School girls, and you won't want to miss it! Join us June 26th-27th for an exciting sleepover at the church. Dinner and breakfast will be provided, so just bring yourself and get ready for a great time! Arrive at 6pm on Friday & pickup will be at 9am on Saturday. Feel free to invite your friends for this epic night! Please let Faith know if you're planning to attend so we can get an accurate headcount for food.

We can't wait to see you there!

- 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 Ministry App!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Rooted in Faith

SPRING FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND 1:00-4:00PM

RAIN OR SHINE

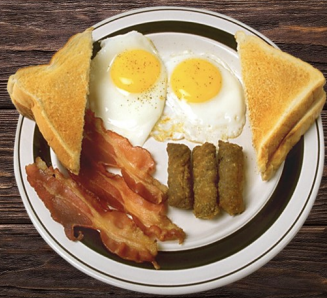
Story Time ~ Face Painting ~ Games Crafts ~ Music ~
Nature Nook ~ Bounce House ~ Free Hot Dog Lunch!



BRING THE FAMILY OUT FOR A GREAT
TIME! BRING A FRIEND! THERE WILL
BE MANY ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS!
ENJOY A HOT DOG LUNCH!

Men's Breakfast

Join us for
food, faith, and
fellowship



Saturday,
May 16th
@ 7:30am

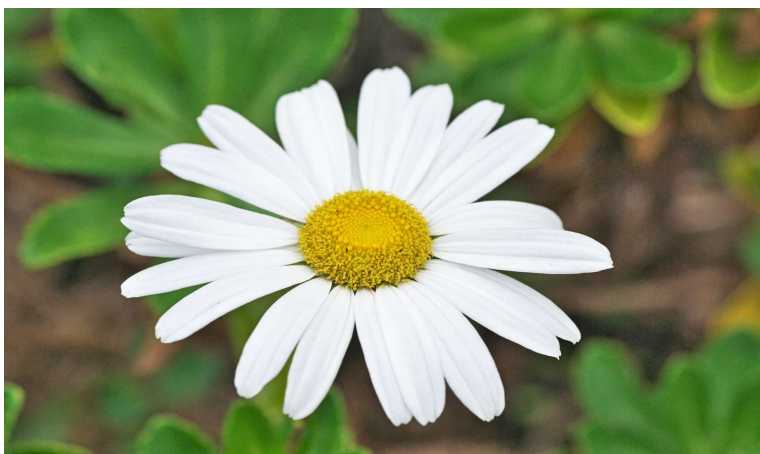
OFFICE CLOSED

OFFICE CLOSED
MONDAY, MAY 25th
FOR MEMORIAL DAY

5th
SUNDAY

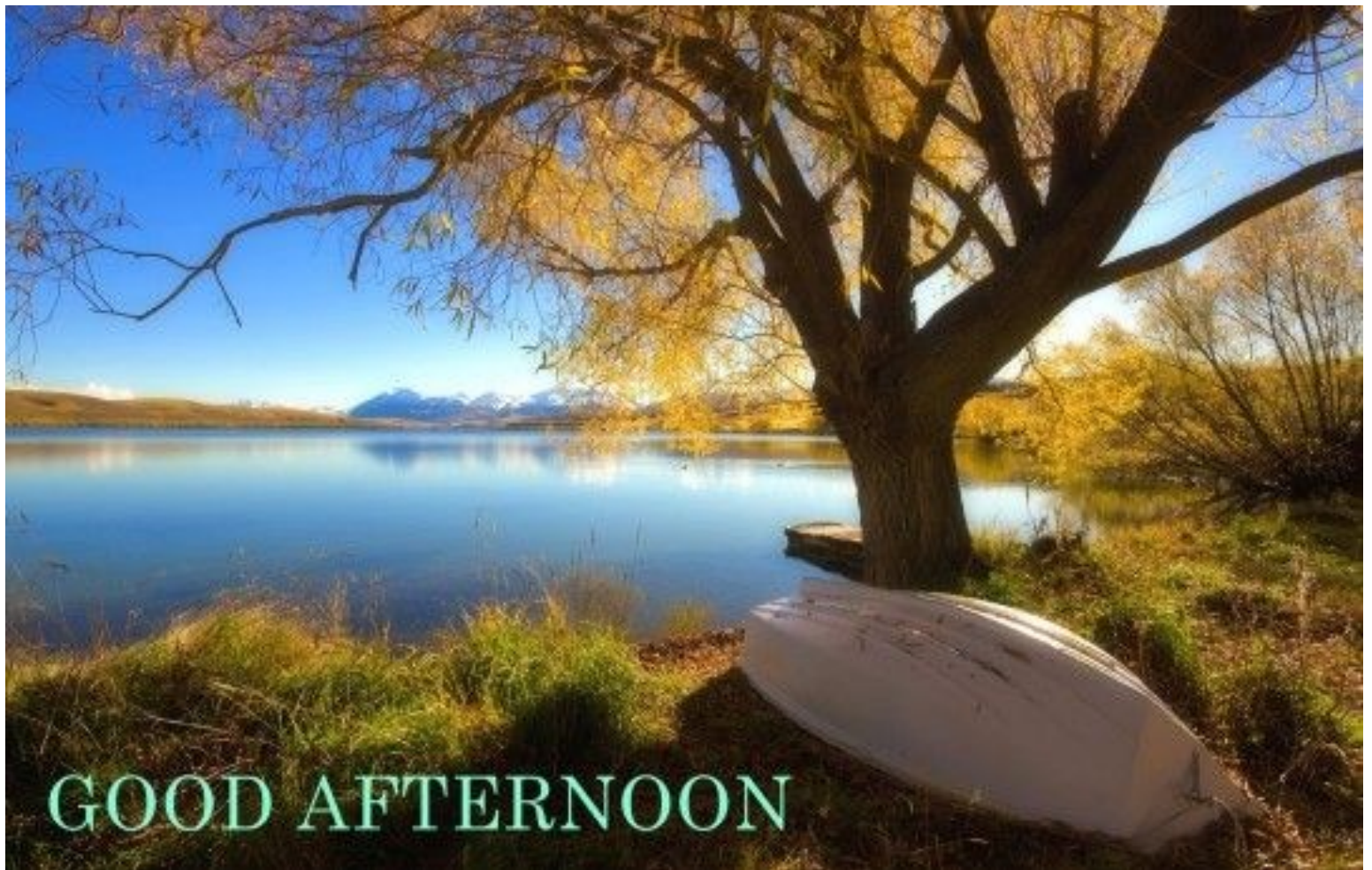
May 31st

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 31st
following the second service.



Afternoon in Nature

Join our church family for a day of enjoying and learning about nature!

Come out to **Strawberry Hill** (1537 Mt Hope Rd, Fairfield, PA) on **June 14th, 2026** from **1-4pm**.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: Bird and wildlife watching, nature journaling, hiking, creek playing and more! See Ruth Blinn, Heather Kelleher or Stephanie Gigous for more info.

All welcome!

MONTHLY

PRAYER GATHERING

**Next meeting:
Sunday, May 24th 6:00-7:30pm**

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

God has given us the opportunity to serve Him, and to help expand His kingdom by packing shoeboxes and sending them around the world.

At the bottom of this note you will find a video link where a young man shares his story of what God has done through a shoebox. That one box has affected his life and the lives of not only his family, but their community, too. Just click the link at the bottom of this short message to meet Johan. Take 1 1/2 minutes and watch what you can do through a simple shoebox.

If you would like to help with this project and affect lives eternally, please place your gifts in the box in the small room behind the sanctuary. Monetary gifts can go into the offering plate. Be sure to mark the envelope for "Shoeboxes."

Ideas for donations: glue sticks, large crayons (for 2-4 year olds), combs, and small toys, especially for girls.

Have a blessed day.

The Shoebox Team

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

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SEMI-ANNUAL
B U S I N E S S
M E E T I N G

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Sunday, May 17th
after each service!

H Y M N

Sing

Sunday, May 17th
@ 6:00pm





A.C.P.M. Meeting

Monday, May 18th
@ 10:00am

AV Committee Meeting

Monday, May 18th
@ 1:00pm



Life Line Screening
coming to FBC

Wednesday, May 27th

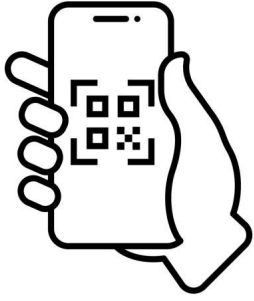
8:30am-5:30pm [in Lewis Hall]

They offer 4 simple, painless tests to check for atrial fibrillation, carotid artery disease, abdominal aortic aneurysm and peripheral artery disease.

The cost is \$129 per person.

Use this QR code or Call 800-324-9458 to schedule. Use the special code: HABC001.



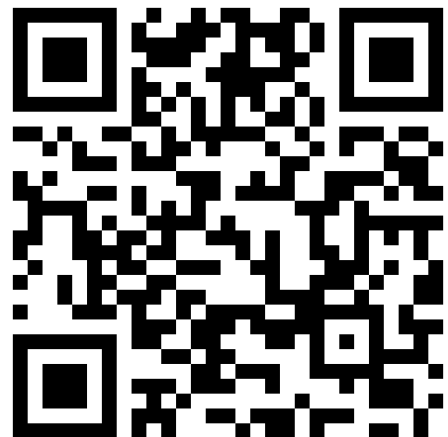


It's a snap!

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

MISSIONS

...at home and around the world



Adams County Christian Academy (Ed Moe—Head of School)

God has blessed our Little Disciples Learning Center (LDLC) daycare which opened in September. We are near capacity and are one of the few daycare operators that take infants at 6 weeks. LDLC provides a continuous cash flow into ACCA, and we are seeing, for the first time, students graduating from our daycare and enrolling into ACCA kindergarten! One of our 2025 goals was to separate from the support provided by Cumberland Valley Christian School in Chambersburg. We wanted to “stand on our own two feet”. On December 8, 2025, the Board of Trustees voted to install ED Moe unanimously as Head of School. We experienced God’s favor for 42 years and His favor every day. We currently have 31 students. We are planning for 26/27 school year, hopefully to have 41 students, a 30% increase. I tell our staff, “When the fold is ready, God will send the sheep,” He is sending the sheep. Thank you for your loving kindness, for standing beside us in hard times, and for your faithful prayer support.

Sarah and Keith Evans—Disciple Makers Lebanon Valley College

We are so thankful for what God has been doing at Lebanon Valley College. The students have had a significant amount of conflict this year but have embraced it with gospel focus and have been learning to navigate difficult conversations, model repentance, show grace, and forgiveness. We see the Lord developing their maturity as they continue to reach out to their peers. Please continue to pray for Keith as he heals and for both of us as parents, particularly as we navigate how to shepherd Ezekiel as he gets older and we are starting to enter the school phase of life.

Ari Hauben—Chosen People

For the 5th year, I’m co-leading our ministry’s flagship short-term, missions trip and evangelistic outreach! Shalom New York 2026, 1-8. The radical, rising onslaught of Jewish hatred and antisemitism requires sharing the Gospel and Isaiah 52 announcing salvation is critical! We share Yeshua (Jesus) as our true source of hope. We are advertising throughout NYC; musicals, “Man on the Street” video interviews and a major event in Washington Square Park. We now have a wealth of effective evangelistic resources available. We have expanded Shalom outreaches to London, San Francisco and Budapest. Please continue to pray for our family and Israel.

Our Ministry Team

Senior Pastor

Rev. Carl G. Harris
pastorcarl@fbcgettysburg.net **717-253-3968**

Associate Pastor

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

Youth Pastor

Pastor Matt Rice
pastormatt@fbcgettysburg.net

Traditional Worship Leader

Loren and Louise Lustig
sing4joy@pa.net

Administrator

Kathy Negro
kathy_negro@fbcgettysburg.net

SonShine Christian Preschool

director: Natalie Potter
sonshine@fbcgettysburg.net

Office Hours:

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

Mailing Address:

First Baptist Church
1015 Chambersburg Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Telephone:

717-334-2564

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

www.fbcgettysburg.net

SUNDAY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CLASSES

The OCCULT (Gilmore) 9:00am Lewis Hall

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST - (Elders) 9:00am Lewis Hall

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN (Punchard) 10:30am Lewis Hall

DEEPER INTO FAMILIAR 'A New Testament survey' (Gallimore) 9:00am Sonshine Classroom

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL CLASS 9:00am Youth Room

PRE K - 5TH GRADE Answers in Genesis 9:00am Lewis Hall

CHILDREN'S CHURCH - THE GOSPEL PROJECT (ages K-5th grade) 10:30am Lewis Hall

LIFE GROUPS & OTHER MINISTRIES

TUESDAY

GOSPEL OF LUKE (J. Harris) ZOOM 6:30-7:45pm

2nd/4th Tuesday - Ladies Only!

THURSDAY

BIBLE STUDY - (James) 9:30am (Youth House)

DEEPER STILL @ Gallimore's 12:00pm Every other Tuesday