



The Discovery

JULY 2022

Financial Snapshot



As of May 31, 2022, tithes, offerings, and other income for the year totaled \$1,193,469 towards our 2022 budget of \$3,000,005. Our expenses through the end of May totaled \$1,155,475 leaving a balance of \$37,994 of revenue over income.

Please visit us at DiscoverFBC.org/give to learn about the various ways to financially support the on-going ministries and mission activities of the church.

Sunday

MORNING SCHEDULE

9:00AM—Contemporary Worship

10:00AM—Bible Study

11:00AM—Traditional Worship

STAFF TRANSITIONS

In addition to welcoming our new Minister to Students, we have some other staff transitions that have officially happened as we prepare for August. Martha Kate Hall will expand her role to Minister to Preschool and Families. In this expanded role, she will continue to direct our Weekday Education ministry while leading our overall ministry with children ages birth through pre-K.

Additionally, Melissa Willis will transition into the role of Minister to Senior Adults and Missions once we have hired our new Director of Children's Ministry. So our senior adults can expect expanded opportunities as we enter the fall! And our missional endeavors will continue to be strong as we seek to serve our community and beyond.



Dear Church,

Outside of Christmas and Easter, July 4th is far and away my favorite holiday. There are so many different reasons why this is true. For over fifteen years, my mom and I have driven to Atlanta on the 4th to run in the Peachtree Road Race. It's an incredible experience to run the race with 40,000 of your closest friends, and everyone passes under the American flag as we begin the race. After not running the race for the past two years due to COVID, I can't wait to be back on Peachtree Street again in a few days! While that's one reason why I love Independence Day, it certainly isn't the most important.

There is something magical about eating hot dogs and hamburgers surrounded by friends and family. I love to watch my girls as they are enthralled by the fireworks that light up the night sky. I love the parades and the celebration of all things America. But most of all, I love that on this one day, we celebrate the idea of America. We are a nation that isn't founded on race or ethnicity, but instead a collection of radically different people who believe in a common ideal, "we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

As the Founding Fathers gathered to craft the Declaration of Independence, I sometimes wonder if they ever imagined that what they did on that day would change the course of human history. The United States of America has been, and continues to be, a beacon of light and hope to billions of people across the globe, and that is in large part due to the words that were penned on July 4, 1776.

It is my prayer that during this season of celebration, Americans of all stripes could pause for a moment and reflect on the significance of those lofty ideals. What does it look like to live in a land where all people can experience life and liberty? How can we foster a culture where people are free to pursue happiness (at least in the way Jefferson intended, which is very different than modern definitions, but that's a different

topic)? How do we, as followers of Jesus, find our place as "citizens of Heaven" while also being people who love our country? These are the questions that matter. These are the questions that give our life meaning and significance.

So, however you celebrate on the 4th of July, I hope that you will take a moment and give thanks to God for the gift that is the United States of America.

Grace and Peace,
Will Dyer, Senior Pastor

COFFEE, TREATS, & Fellowship

Beginning in August, we will restart our coffee and fellowship time prior to the start of Contemporary Worship. As many of you are aware, we altered our worship time during Covid and backed it to 9:00AM. We intend to keep it at that time, so now we want you to plan to come early for a time of fellowship and coffee.

Also, we regularly have guests at our 9AM worship service, so we want to create a more inviting and welcoming atmosphere. And while doing all of this—enjoying coffee, treats, and fellowship—you will help us support a good cause. Our coffee vendor is Land of a Thousand Hills. Search them online and you will discover the "Do Good Initiative" to support the people of Rwanda.

So starting in August, come before worship (opens at 8:30AM) and enjoy some coffee and fellowship—while you participate in our vision to connect people with Christ and the community of faith.

A green graphic with a white outline of a map of Georgia in the background. The text is white and reads: "TOGETHER AGAIN! Senior Adult Lunch Thursday, August 11 11:15 am \$12.00 per person. RSVP to Elizabeth at echao@fbcaugusta.org or 706-731-5355".

TOGETHER AGAIN!
Senior Adult Lunch
Thursday, August 11
11:15 am
\$12.00 per person.
RSVP to Elizabeth at echao@fbcaugusta.org or 706-731-5355



“I just wanted to tell you how much our foster kid enjoyed VBS this year. He came home every day excited about learning the Bible verse, singing songs, and talking about his art projects. He is learning so much about Jesus and the Bible for the first time at 10 years old. Thank you, thank you to all staff, and volunteers for taking the time to work with kids and teach them about who Jesus is and what he has done for them. We are grateful!”

-From a thankful parent

CELEBRATING Generosity!

Recently, our church contributed \$10,000 to the Druid Park Community Health Center (through Miracle Making Ministries) to fund lab work and testing. The following is testimony to how the funds are being used to minister in Christ’s name.

“I want to give you a close up view of these funds at work. I saw a lady who has severe lung disease and she had a CT scan of her chest several years ago while she still had insurance. She was told that it was abnormal and she should have follow-up studies but that has been impossible for her. When I told her that we were getting a CT scan of her chest she was so relieved that she broke into tears. We had just learned about the grant from FBC that day and it was a joy to be able to get the study that she clearly needed even before we knew that she was so worried about it. This is just one example of mission funds at work and I thought you would enjoy hearing about it.”

Betty Wray MD

Thanks for giving! To continue to support efforts like this, please make contributions through the Green Envelope. Also, as we prepare for the fall, please continue to be faithful to support the general budget. Your gifts allow us to minister to our community as we seek to connect people with Jesus and our community of faith.

Get Ready FOR WEDNESDAYS!

In August, and as we resume our Wednesday night meals, we are looking forward to having all ages back together for programs on Wednesday nights. By having events for our children and youth, we look forward to providing new opportunities for adults, as well.

For our children, in the fall we will provide music focused programs for ages 3 through 5th Grade. Though the hour will be music focused, it will incorporate some additional activities. A goal of the fall is to present a children’s Christmas program in early December. In the spring, ages 3 through 2nd Grade will continue with a music focused hour of programming, and we will shift the focus of the programs for 3rd – 5th Grade to create an emphasis on Bible skills, missions, and recreation. We believe this annual approach will provide great opportunities for all of our children.

Some of the opportunities for adults from 6-7PM will include:

- The Pastor’s Bible Study—led by Will Dyer
- Invitation to a Journey (Group 1)—led by Laurel Landon and Chris Showman
- Invitation to a Journey (Group 2)—led by Jim Walls and Len Collins
- Parenting Seminar—led by Martha Kate Hall
- Women’s Book Club—led by Rebecca Elkin

Plan to join us in August on Wednesday evenings at 5PM for a fellowship meal, followed by the many opportunities to help connect you with the community of faith while growing in discipleship.

Wednesday Schedule

Resumes August 3rd

5:00PM Fellowship Meal

6:00PM Activities for all children and youth, birth through 12th grade

6:00PM Various Adult Studies



WELCOME MATT HESTER!

We are excited to announce our next Minister to Students—Matt Hester. Matt is originally from Fort Payne, Alabama. In 2012, he graduated from Samford University located in Birmingham, Alabama with an undergraduate degree in Business Management. He received his Master of Divinity degree from the McAfee School of

Theology in Atlanta, GA. Matt currently serves as the Minister to Youth and College at First Baptist Church in Clemson, SC. Prior to arriving in Clemson, Matt served as the Associate Pastor of Youth and Missions at Parkway Baptist Church in Duluth, Georgia.

Matt is married to Courtney, who is a first-grade teacher, and they have a 4-year-old daughter, Ellie Blake, a 1-year-old son, Everett, and a golden retriever, Tucker.

In addition to ministry, Matt is also a competitive disc golfer who participates in tournaments across the southeast. Matt is a born-and-raised fan of the Alabama Crimson Tide. Roll Tide! He and his family enjoy doing just about anything outside. Whether it's riding bikes, hiking, or going for a swim, the Hester crew is always up for an adventure.

The church voted to call Matt to serve with us on June 19th, and we anticipate that he will begin with us on August 1st. Look for more details coming soon on a time when we will officially welcome the Hester family to FBC Augusta!



FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH OF AUGUSTA

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