



125 Sedgefield Street
BRISTOL, VIRGINIA 24201

THE FIRST WORD

October 2025

First Baptist Family,

This October will be a busy month in the life of the church. Consequently, there are a few things that I want to bring to your attention. First, as most of you know, October is Stewardship Month at First Baptist Bristol. Each week in worship we're going to have a Stewardship Moment, and in these moments, you will hear how your gifts of time, talent, and treasure go to support the missions and ministries of this church. You'll hear how your gifts help maintain our beautiful facilities, how they enable us to have strong children, youth, and music programs, how they enable us to have meaningful discipleship ministries, and how they help us be the hands and feet of Christ in this community, this region, and this world through the numerous missions and missionaries we support. Simply put, we can't function as a church without you and your willingness to give. Thus, to highlight the participatory nature of stewardship, you're going to have several ways in which you can respond. We'll have pledge cards again this year, and we will have two of them. One card will be for financial pledges, and the other will be for pledges of time and service. Both are important, so please take the time to prayerfully consider them before filling them out. As always, you will also be able to make your financial pledges on Realm. Everything with regards to our Stewardship emphasis will culminate at the end of the month.

On Sunday, October 26, we will have Consecration Sunday. During that service, we will have a time in which you will be able to walk forward and place your pledges (both financial and time pledges) in the church replica we use every year. We will not livestream this portion of the service. Then, after worship that Sunday, we will have our Quarterly Business Meeting.

In addition to our Stewardship emphasis, there are several other things happening in October about which you need to know.

First, I'm going to be starting a new sermon series entitled "Fatherly Advice." In this series, we're going to be working our way through II Timothy. As you may know, II Timothy is a letter written by Paul to Timothy, and though they aren't biologically related, Paul and Timothy very much have a father-son type of relationship. So, we're going to examine the fatherly advice that Paul gives to his son in the ministry. **Second, I'm going to be resuming FBB 101. We will meet for 3 weeks during the Sunday School hour in Rosser Hall on October 5, 12, and 26. If you are a new member, a frequent visitor, or if you're a long time member who would like to learn more about the church, I invite you to join me as we look at what it means to be Baptist and the kind of Baptists we are here at FBB, the organization and structure of the**

church, and ways in which you can get more involved in the life of the church. As a reminder, if you are unable to make one of these sessions, I will be leading it again in January. I lead this study the first month of each quarter, minus July.

Third, many of you have asked when the quarterly ecumenical services like we had before COVID would resume. And I have good news – they are going to resume this month! There will be an ecumenical service at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 19 at 6 PM. I hope that you will be able to join me in attending.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't mention two final things. **First, I want to officially welcome Andrea Cottrill on board as our new Director of Music Ministries! If you haven't met Andrea yet, I want to encourage you to do so.** She and her husband, Keith, are both very outgoing and friendly. And with Christmas right around the corner, I'm sure that she'll be on the lookout for some new voices to join the choir. **Second, I want to thank you again for the tickets to the UGA-UT game. They were great seats, and it was an excellent game! My brother, Jonathan, and I both had a blast!** Thank you again for your kind generosity. You really know how to make a person feel appreciated!



As always, it is a joy to be your pastor.

Grace and Peace,

Kris



BREAKFAST!!

Sunday, October 5, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Rosser Hall

There will be a full or partial breakfast available at no charge.

Fellowship before heading off to Sunday School.

FBB 101

October 5

October 12

October 26

(Sunday School Hour)

Come and join Kris in Rosser Hall and learn about what it means to be Baptist.



Deacon Nominations

October is the time to begin the deacon nominating and election process for **2026-2028**. To that end, we solicit your assistance and participation

We want to give you this opportunity to nominate members of the congregation.

You may submit up to seven names. The deadline to submit a nomination form is **Sunday, October 19, 2026**

Our Quarterly Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 26, after the morning worship service. According to our church's by-laws, chairs of teams and boards are asked to give a quarterly report of the group's activities. The report can be either written or oral. If the report is written, please give a copy to the church office so copies can be made for the membership. If at all possible, please submit the report **no later than Wednesday, October 15**. The information you share will be helpful in keeping the membership informed of what is happening in our church.

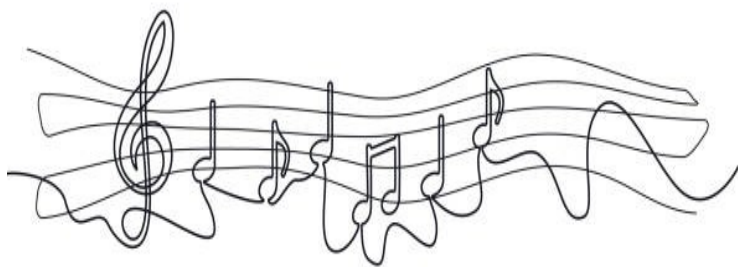


October 29

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Hot Dogs
- Chips
- Drinks
- Cup Cake Walk
- Races
- Face Painting
- Games
- Pumpkin Lawn Bowling
- Balloon Animals
- Costumes

If anyone is available to help, please see Ben ASAP.



Greetings First Baptist Family!

On behalf of our family, I want to say thank you for such a warm and friendly welcome as we have joined your church family. We are excited to call FBB home and are looking forward to getting to know each of you as we make great music and serve the Lord together!

HANDBELLS! I love them and learned to play them in about 3rd grade! Keith and I played in a handbell choir until I had Claire, and then I even played a few weeks with her happily attached in a front carrier sleeping away! We will have a kick-off meeting on **October 12 at 8:30am** in the bell room and then plan to start regular rehearsals on October 19! Christmas is right around the corner, so we need to get started!

Speaking of Christmas! Do you like to sing? Were you in the choir a few years ago? Have you wondered what it would be like to sing in a church choir? We would love to have you join us on Wednesday evenings at 7pm! We will soon be working on our Christmas music, and all are welcome to join us! Making a commitment for Christmas doesn't mean that you will need to sing all year long, just for this special occasion. If you are interested, please be sure to come and see me!

While we are excited about Christmas, let's not skip over one of my favorite times of year: FALL! The cooler weather, a cozy blanket, pumpkin spice lattes and the changing leaves! The leaves remind us that change is beautiful; it's part of God's plan and leaning on Him through it all is where we find peace. May you find HIS peace in this changing season!

Sparkling for Jesus,

Andrea



October 17 & 18

**Youth
Fundraiser
Red Youth
Building**



First Baptist Church of Bristol Staff

Dr. Kris Aaron	Senior Pastor	Ms. Marcine Robinette.....Parish Nurse
Rev. Ben Ondrak	Associate Pastor	Mrs. Emma Vance.....Ministry Asst. for Children
Mrs. Andrea Cottrill	Director of Music Ministries	Ms. Terri ThomasChurch Administrator
Mrs. Jackie Burnette	Pianist	and Financial Secretary
Mrs. Andrea Pennington	Organist	Ms. Niki Judy Administrative Assistant



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Website: www.fbcbristol.org
 You can also find us on
 Facebook. 



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

125 Sedgefield Street
 Bristol, VA 24201

Deacon of the Week for October

October 05	Jennifer Rouse
October 12	David Crockett
October 19	Darin Denton
October 26	JoAnne Barbour

October FBC Minister On-Call Schedule

October 04 & 05	Rev. Ben Ondrak	(423) 217-8934
October 11 & 12	Dr. Kris Aaron	(803) 225-0795
October 18 & 19	Rev. Ben Ondrak	(423) 217-8934
October 25 & 26	Dr. Kris Aaron	(803) 225-0795