FIRST THINGS FIRST

September 2025



CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST

On September 13th, members of the Estelle Brooks Circle gathered for a joyful tradition—crafting the third annual Christmas ornament. This year's ornament was beautifully designed and crafted by circle member Linda Harding, whose talent brought the vision to life. The handmade ornaments will be shared in December with church members and faithful attenders, spreading warmth and gratitude throughout our congregation.

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Sierra joined us as Minister of Music in the summer of 2025. Born and raised in Halifax County, VA, she went on to study and graduate from Liberty University with a Bachelors in Instrumental Music with a concentration in Classical Percussion. For the past 11 years, Sierra has served as an instrumentalist in various capacities within many different churches in Virginia and Southern Texas. Sierra is currently pursuing a career as an elementary school music teacher in South Boston, Virginia.





BIRTHDAY BASH!

On August 24th, our FBC Deacons hosted a heartwarming churchwide Birthday Bash that reminded us all of the joy of community and the gift of life. The fellowship hall was transformed into a vibrant menagerie of months, with each deacon thoughtfully decorating a table to represent a specific birth month. This event wasn't just about birthdays—it was about belonging. Thank you to our dedicated Deacons for making everyone feel seen, celebrated, and loved.

A LEGACY OF GRACE AND GENEROSITY…

Our church family continues to feel the loving presence of Alice Dawson, whose spirit of kindness and service lives on in the spaces she cherished and the people she inspired. In her memory, we are deeply grateful to the Dawson family for their generous contributions that have brought new life to our church home.

Thanks to their support, the parlor—a place of gathering and quiet reflection—has undergone a beautiful renovation. The water-damaged walls have been repaired, the wallpaper removed, and fresh paint now brightens the room. A new sofa is also in the works, promising comfort and welcome to all who gather there.

The Dawson family's generosity extended beyond the parlor. They also funded the repainting of the black wall at the entrance to the fellowship hall, transforming it into a more inviting space for all who enter. Additionally, they made a heartfelt donation to support the mission work of the Helen Woods Circle, a ministry close to Alice's heart and one in which she served faithfully for many years. Alice's legacy is one of quiet strength, compassion, and unwavering commitment to her church and community. We honor her memory not only through these physical improvements, but through the continued work of love and service she inspired in all of us.

POTATO DINNER

The next Potato Dinner will be on Friday, October 17th in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 5pm. The Fuller Center for Housing ensures 100% of all donations directly support building homes.

BREAKFAST HOUR

The next breakfast will be on September 28th at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall. A sign-up sheet for food is posted on the bulletin board at the kitchen entrance.

UPDATE ON THE WHITE HOUSE

Joe Johnson has worked diligently to complete the necesssary work and we are deeply grateful and thank the Sabbath Rest Committee for their hard work in preparing the property for sale. They have organized and deep cleaned; their efforts have brought us one step closer to listing. Our hope is to have the house officially on the market by the end of the month. Please continue to keep this process in your prayers as we move forward with faith and purpose.

COMMUNITY STEW

Our annual community stew will be on October 29th starting at 5pm. This special evening is a time to celebrate, reflect, and enjoy a hearty meal with friends old and new. We hope you'll be part of it!

PASTORAL UPDATES

Alden will be reporting to Greensboro from October 16th - 18th for his monthly Navy chaplaincy duties. He has been cross assigned to I Marine Expeditionary Force based out of Camp Pendleton.