



February 1, 2026

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ♦ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

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Announcements

Evening Worship and After Church Fellowship

Come back tonight and join us for Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. We'll have an After Church Fellowship following Evening Worship tonight at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks to share!

Elders' Meeting

Tuesday, **February 3**, at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night

This Wednesday, we'll have Chicken Fingers for supper at 5:30 p.m., Adventure Club at 6:20, Youth at 6:30, and Bible Study at 6:45. Sign up in the hall for suppers!

Leadership Retreat

The retreat for our Elders and Deacons is **February 6-7**. Please let any of them know if you have something you'd like them to discuss. Please be praying for our church leadership!

Lunch at Old Savannah City Mission

Teaching and lunch at the OSCM on Saturday, **February 7**, from 11:00 to 1:00. Bobby DeLoach is teaching, and the DeLoach family, Kelly Zittrouer, and Eleanor Bowden are serving. Talk to Bobby if you'd like to help, too!

Crochet Club

Do you like to crochet, or would you like to learn? Join the crochet club on Saturday, **February 7**, in the Youth House at 10:00 a.m. and bring your project!

Continued on p. 4

Visitors!

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us today! We'd love to learn more about you. Please get further connected to our church by scanning the QR code to the right and filling out the contact card. Thank you!



February 1, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Matthew 17:4-8

Pew Bible p. 822

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Greeting

(When singing begins, please make your way to your seats and sing along!)

When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound and time shall be no more,

And the morning breaks eternal, bright, and fair—

When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore,

And the roll is called up yonder—I'll be there!

When the roll is called up yonder, when the roll is called up yonder,

When the roll is called up yonder— When the roll is called up yonder I'll be there!

Prayer of Praise

Hymn #50, bulletin p. 6

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Prayer of General Confession

Steve Posner

Hosea 6:1-3

Pew Bible p. 754

Hymn, bulletin p. 7

“What Love, My God”

Scripture Reading

Romans 11:13-24

Dennis Brittingham

Pew Bible p. 947

Hymn, bulletin p. 8

“My Shepherd, You Supply my Need”

Message

Tom Keller

The Fatherhood of God

Adoption #10

Selected Scriptures

Hymn, bulletin p. 9

“Now Unto the King Eternal, Immortal, Invisible”

The Fatherhood of God

Adoption #10

Selected Scriptures

I. The Father of Jesus

II. The Father of Adam

III. The Father of Israel

IV. The Father of the Adopted

Continued from p. 1

Senior Saints' Valentine Lunch

The Senior Saints' Valentine Lunch will be on Sunday, **February 8**, after Morning Worship. Sign up in the hall!

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, **February 10**, at 7:00 p.m.

Senior Saints' Lunch

The Senior Saints will have lunch together at the 5 Spot in Sandfly on Tuesday, **February 17**. Sign the list in the hall and meet at the restaurant at 11:00 a.m.

BCM Lunch at GSU

Tom Keller and Shawn Champion are organizing lunch for the Baptist Collegiate Ministries at GSU, Armstrong, on Wednesday, **February 18**. Let them know if you would like to help.

Home Fellowships

We're having Home Fellowships on Sunday, **March 1**! I have all four homes needed, and lists of who is going where will be in the bulletin in a few weeks.

Ghost Pirates Hockey Game

Shawn Champion is organizing a group for the Savannah Ghost Pirates hockey game on Friday, **March 13**. Sign the sheet in the hall by March 1 if you'd like to go!



Family Easter Event
Saturday, March 28
11:30 to 1:30
Fellowship Hall
Inflatables, lunch,
games, egg hunts,
and crafts!
FREE EVENT!



This event is designed for toddlers through sixth graders! Please use the QR code to go to the event page and register. Call the office if you have any trouble registering.



Danny and Janet Edwards want to thank you for the love shown them in tangible and intangible ways during Janet's medical difficulties and ongoing recovery. The phone calls, texts, food, cards, and prayers have touched them more than you know. They are thankful for their church family's Christian love and care.

Important Upcoming Events



February:

1	After Church Fellowship	7:00 p.m.
3	Elders' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
6-7	Leadership Retreat	
7	Crochet Club in Youth House	10:00 a.m.
7	Lunch at Old Savannah City Mission: DeLoach family, Kelly Zittrouer, Eleanor Bowden	11:00 a.m.
8	Senior Saints' Valentine Banquet	12:00 p.m.
10	Deacons' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
13	Young Adult Palentine Event	TBA
18	Lunch at GSU Armstrong BCM	
26	Men's Oyster Roast	
27	Church-wide Oyster Roast	

March:

1	Home Fellowships	6:00 p.m.
3	Elders' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
7	Lunch at Old Savannah City Mission: Charles & Cindy Wise, Jimmy & Janice Donaldson	11:00 a.m.
8	Daylight Savings Time Ends	
10	Deacons' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
13	Ghost Pirates Hockey Game	7:00 p.m.
13	WOL Ladies' Night Out: TBD	
14	Family Breakfast	TBA
28	Family Easter Event (See page 4!)	11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
29	Easter Cantata	6:00 p.m.

April:

3	Good Friday Service	7:00 p.m.
4	Lunch at Old Savannah City Mission: Youth & Young Adults	11:00 a.m.
5	Easter Breakfast	8:45 a.m.
5	Easter Morning Worship with Communion	10:00 a.m.
7	Elders' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
14	Deacons' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
24-25	Women of Light Spring Conference	TBA
26	Quarterly Members' Meeting	TBA

Save these dates:

D-3 Camp: June 13 through 26

VBS: June 22 through 26

Children's Camp: July 27-30

Fairest Lord Jesus!

CRUSADERS' HYMN

From *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677

4th vs. trans. by Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

From *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842

Adapted by Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus! Rul - er of all na - ture!
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, Fair - er still the wood - lands,
 3. Fair is the sun - shine, Fair - er still the moon - light,
 4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

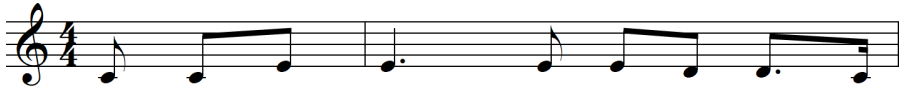
O Thou of God and man the Son! Thee will I cher - ish,
 Robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 And all the twink - ling star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,
 Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

Thee will I hon - or, Thou my soul's glo - ry, joy and crown!
 Je - sus is pur - er, Who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er Than all the an - gels heav'n can boast.
 Praise, ad - o - ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

What Love, My God

Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson,
Michael Farren

Verse



1. What love, my God, would bring You down to
2. What love, my God, would send the Way of
3. What love, my God, could hold You to the
4. What love, my God, so gra - cious and ex -



earth? What king would take a low and lone - ly
Life to walk the road, e - jec - ted and de -
tree to bear that o - ver - whelm - ing debt for
treme, was strong e - nough to come and fight for



birth? Yet to this dark and bro - ken place You
spised that You might know the weak - ness I pos -
me? The Son of heav - en leaves the Fa - ther's
me, to go through hell and down in - to the



came to sleep be - neath the stars that You had made.
sess and be my rock of strength and right - eous - ness?
side. The Heal - er bleeds. The Life was made to die.
grave and raise me up to see You face to face?

Chorus

(tag) You raise me up to see You face to face.



O Your love, my God, like a flood as heav - en



o - pened up pour - ing out on us. O praise the King who came to the



world in His love like a might - y flood.

CCLI Song # 7073335

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My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

Words: ISAAC WATTS

Tune: RESIGNATION



1. My Shep-herd, You sup- ply my need; most ho- ly is Your name.
 2. When I walk through the shades of death, your pres- ence is my stay;
 3. The sure pro- vi- sions of my God at- tend me all my days;



In pas- tures fresh You make me feed, be- side the liv- ing stream.
 One word of Your sup- port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 Oh, may Your house be my a - bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan- d'ring spir - it back when I for- sake Your ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 Here would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;



And lead me, for Your mer- cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
 My cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows, Your oil a - noints my head.
 No more a stran - ger or a guest, but like a child at home.

Now Unto the King Eternal, Immortal, Invisible

Lorraine Sonnenberg

D7 G D7 G D7 G D7
 Now un - to the King e - ter - nal, im - mor - tal, in -

5 G D7 G D7sus/A G/A C G Em7
 vis - i - ble, The on - ly wise God, Be hon - or and glo - ry for -

9 Am D7 G G/B G C G Em
 ev - er and ev - er. A - men. A - men. Be hon - or and glo - ry for -

13 Am/C D7 G C/G G
 ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

CCLI Song # 18077
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Articles

The Hardest Part of Overcoming Addiction

By Brad Hambrick

There is nothing easy about overcoming an addiction. As we explore what would be the hardest part of this process, I want to be careful not to minimize other parts of the journey. But when you talk to people who were once slaves to substance abuse and are now experiencing significant freedom, a common refrain emerges when you ask: What was the hardest part of your journey?

Before I offer an answer to this question, take a moment to reflect. What is your best guess?

- Physical withdrawal symptoms
- Loneliness that comes from severing ties with friends who are also fellow addicts
- Figuring out what to do with the time formerly invested into the addiction
- Learning new, healthy forms of entertainment
- Managing the fallout of emotional and financial stresses caused by addiction

These are all real and all difficult factors. But they are often not the hardest. Actually, these challenge all come after what is commonly the hardest part of overcoming addiction.

So, what is the hardest part? **Being honest.** There is so much to be honest about when you're overcoming addiction.

- You must be *honest with yourself*—acknowledge the problem is “that bad,” that you need help, that the idea that you “could quit if you wanted to” is a lie, that your friends and family were being compassionate when they brought concerns to you, etc.
- You must be *honest with God*—acknowledge that you desperately need his help, that his ways are better than your ways, that he isn't “old fashioned” or “controlling” but liberating and life-giving, that it's not good for you to try to overcome your struggle alone, etc.
- You must be *honest with others*—acknowledge that you have lied to them, that your actions have impacted their life, that they were right, and you refused to listen, that you need their help, that what you used to call “help” was enabling, etc.

Why Honesty Is So Hard

When it comes to something as monumental as overcoming addiction, it is often the guilt and shame that comes with being honest that most impedes our efforts to engage in the process of change. Our pride tempts us to turn a blind eye to what is obvious to anyone willing to look objectively at our life.

This where we wrestle with John 8:32: “*You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*” We desperately wish the inverse of this verse were not true: **until you acknowledge the truth, you will remain enslaved.** It is hard to admit that freedom begins with honesty about not yet being free.

This dilemma is one of the reasons that group-based counseling has been so effective in helping people find freedom from addiction. In a circle, men and women in the early stages of deciding whether they’re going to do the hard work of overcoming addiction get to see and admire the courage of others being honest. They can also see what recovery looks like in other people’s lives.

It could easily be argued that the most powerful part of an addiction group is not the curriculum, but the example of fellow strugglers wrestling with the same decision to be honest and move forward toward hope and change.

The Best Way to Help a Loved One

For those who have not experienced addiction, this is probably one of the most misunderstood parts of the experience. Most non-addicts think *the answer* to addiction is clear: stop drinking or using. They’re not wrong. The difficult part is being honest about *the question* that first needs to be asked to see why the answer is relevant.

As we seek to come alongside our loved ones trapped in addiction, it serves us well to understand the hardest part of the struggle. It helps us not to rush to the answer when our loved one is still wrestling with the question: Do I *really* need to change? Is my struggle *that bad*?

We often grow frustrated when our loved one won’t embrace what seems obvious: they need to step away from their addictive habits. The fact that we’re right about this basic reality only emboldens our frustration and makes it clearer to our loved one how much we don’t get what is hardest for them. Arguments, silence, and distance inevitably ensue.

If you’ve found yourself in that catch-22 with a loved one, consider this approach. Look for a moment when they will at least partially acknowledge there is a problem. Those moments may be rare and are therefore precious. When one of these moments arises, start by affirming their courage to honestly entertain the question about whether they need to change. Thank them for the opportunity to be welcomed into this conversation.

Then ask a question like this, “Which is harder for you right now: (a) determining whether your life would be better without your addiction or (b) mustering the courage to engage that question?” “A” is about whether they agree or disagree with the obvious answer. “B” is about whether they’re willing to ask the question.

Give them time to think. When they speak, listen. As long as they don’t get defensive, thank them again for their courage. The longer you can foster honesty in your loved one, the higher the likelihood they will engage in change.

When we understand that honesty is the hardest part of overcoming addiction, this approach makes more sense to us. Yes, there are a myriad of steps they need to take after this. But that shouldn’t cause us to rush our loved one through the first, intimidating step of being honest with God, self, and others. ♦

Christians are part of something bigger than the local church

By Simon van Bruchem

For most of us, being part of a local church is the key place we experience the Christian community. As it should be! It is with the people that we see regularly and we know well that we live out what it means to be a follower of Jesus. We learn to bear with one another, to forgive one another, to use our gifts to build one another up, and to share our lives in lots of different ways. All believers should be a part of a local church.

Yet it is also important to know that our local church is part of something bigger. Jesus did not only die for the people in your local church. He died to make a people for himself from every tribe, people and language. It is very helpful for us to understand that we have brothers and sisters all around the world that also love Jesus.

This can take a range of forms, of course. Perhaps your church is part of a denomination. In recent weeks, I have had the privilege of speaking at a sister church in my city as part of a scheduled pulpit swap. I also spoke at a sister church in another state as an invited guest, being privileged to open God's word and get to know brothers and sisters I had never met before. These experiences drove home to me that God is doing good things in other places. God's work is far more extensive than anything I can see in my own local church.

We can think still more widely, of course. Our denomination or tribe is by no means the only group of churches that love Jesus. We have brothers and sisters who worship in churches with different labels above the door. They might differ from our church in how they think about baptism, church government, or worship. They might have different emphases to how we go about things. This is also good for us to reflect on. The way our local church does it is not the only way it can be done. God is working in many different types of churches. We must not be arrogant and think we are the pure church and everyone else is wrong.

But we can think still more widely. We have brothers and sisters all around the world. Peter uses this fact to encourage his readers in the first century:

⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. (1 Pet. 5:8-9 ESV)

Life is often difficult for Christians. And that is not only for us, but for our brothers and sisters in Asia, in the Middle East, wherever they might be in the world. Yet we can resist the devil and stand firm. Other believers are also striving to do this. Many in harder places have stood firm. What we are experiencing is nothing new or unique to us. We are not alone in the world. We might not know the names of our spiritual family members in Uganda or Argentina, but we know they are there, and we should pray for them.

Seeing ourselves as part of a much bigger whole makes us humble. God has done all of this. We are a small part of a much bigger kingdom of God. How incredible! ❖



Creation Moments

Proclaiming Evidence for Truth

THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

Plants Call in Air Defenses



"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." - John 1:14

Research shows that, when attacked, many plants make chemicals that give munching insects a bad case of indigestion. They also seem to warn their neighbors of the attack so that they, too, start up their defenses. Some plants even call in air defenses.

Some plants, when attacked by caterpillars, release a scent that scientists simply describe as "green leaf odors." These odors attract certain female wasps, who home in on the plant. The wasp will sting the caterpillar, leaving him paralyzed. She then lays her eggs in the pest, who remains paralyzed until the hatching young wasps consume it. That "green leaf odor" is a plant's way of calling in air defenses. It is communication between plant and insect!

Some evolutionary biologists are upset with this arrangement. Plants are supposed to be too simple to communicate. As one evolutionist put it, this is "not a defense against anything" ... it "just happens."

I remember trying that excuse as a child. The cookie jar fell to the floor while I was trying to sneak a cookie. "It just happened," I said, as if the cookie jar had come alive before my eyes and jumped to the floor. Science teaches us that things don't "just happen." Not only do we see here that God exists, we also see a bit of His love in providing for the plant and His intelligence as the author of communication.

Image: Parasitoid wasp pointing and cinnabar moth larva, Ian Alexander, CC BY-SA 4.0, Wikimedia Commons.



Scan the QR code after service to watch a related video!

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Missionary of the Week

Pascal & Becky Grenade
Global Faith Mission - Mauritius

Dear friends,

The Lord is good. We have experienced his goodness in many ways these past few months. We are thankful for this truth as it keeps us going even when things seem hard. There have been some very good times these past few months, but as is life, the hard times come as well. We are thankful for the Lord's sustaining grace and the blessed reminder that He is good and we can always count on the Lord being good and true in all things.

Our church camp was a blessing and a time of encouragement. There is always a lot of work that goes into getting a church camp ready. We thank the Lord for several people who were a blessing in helping in very practical ways such as buying the food, taking it to the camp, etc . . . Pascal and his dad taught from Isaiah 40 to 57 for the camp sessions. It was a time of edification for the church. Please pray that more people will have a true desire to serve the Lord and not just fill the chairs. We would love to see each person truly committed to the Lord fully.

Please continue to pray for Becky's exercise teacher, Pascaline. She and her son Leo have been coming to church regularly for the past several months, and Leo has been coming to the kids' club as well. Continue to pray for the Lord to work in their hearts.

Our time of furlough started three days after church camp ended. It was a bit of a whirlwind as the kids were finishing up school and doing exams, then there was church camp, and then we were leaving. We were in the States for two months, and it was a blessed time for us. We would like to thank our supporting churches that welcomed us so graciously. We were blessed and encouraged by our time with many of you. Thank you to those who fed us, took us out to eat, gave us gift cards, monetary gifts, and loved us and our children. It was a blessing to hear our kids mention how much they enjoyed being with many of you. It is a testament to how well you did at making them feel welcome. Thank you.

We were grateful for the time that we were able to spend with family, personal



Blessed time with our mission board director and his wife, Roy and Edi Seals. We are so thankful for our mission board.

supporters and friends. We thank the Lord for each of you and how you have encouraged us and helped us to persevere. Thank you.

Thanksgiving was a lot of fun. In Mauritius, thanksgiving is not a public holiday, so it was fun for us all to be in the US for it this year. We spent that time with Becky's brother Rob, his wife Cairra and their kids. Becky's mom also flew in from France for two weeks, and that was a special time with her as well. We spent Christmas in Florida with Pascal's brother Lio and his wife Grace and their children. We were blessed to spend these special times with family whom we do not see often.

We have been back in Mauritius for two weeks now. We arrived Friday afternoon the 9th of January, and Gabriel started 1st grade that following Monday morning. The other children went back to school that Tuesday. Needless to say, the jet lag was a bit hard, and fatigue was our faithful companion that first week back. We are thankful for our family on this side of the ocean who welcomed us home. Our house was ready, our dogs were bathed, Pascal's mom cooked supper for us. We are blessed. Please pray for us as we get fully back into the ministry here. May the Lord give us each joy as we serve him this year.

Blessings,

*Pascal, Becky,
and the kids*

Nursery February 1

Babies:

Carolyn Blanton, Jan DeLoach,
Kayla Duero

Toddlers:

Cindy Dimmitt, Rebekah Helmick

Preschoolers:

Rachel Beatty, Amy Keller

Nursery February 8

Babies:

Lynn Ernst, Jeanie Groover,
Beth Lewis

Toddlers:

Michael & Karrie Walker

Preschoolers:

Avalon DeLoach, Stacey Kelly

Right Now Media

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or scan this QR code:



If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see any of the pastors after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with a pastor, or call the church office.



Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from

www.fabchurch.com/sermons

This Week at FABC!

Today

Coffee Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Women's Bible Study: <i>Hebrews, Part 1</i>	11:00 a.m.
Women's Bible Study: <i>Hebrews, Part 1</i>	6:15 p.m.
Men's Bible Study: <i>1 & 2 Timothy, Titus</i>	6:15 p.m.
Elders' Meeting	7:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Supper: Chicken Fingers	5:30 p.m.
Adventure Club	6:20 p.m.
Youth	6:30 p.m.
Adult Bible Study: <i>Practical Sanctification</i>	6:45 p.m.

Thursday

Senior Adult Bible Study: <i>Isaiah</i>	10:00 a.m.
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Friday - Saturday

Leadership Retreat

Hearing assistance devices for services in the sanctuary are available on request at the sound booth.

Lockup Deacons for February:

Danny Edwards, Howard Ernst

Sunday School Classes and Descriptions

Adult

Questions & Answers	Fellowship Hall:	Bob Dimmitt
Romans video series:		
W. Robert Godfrey, Ligonier	Youth House:	Steve Posner
Union with Christ	Gym Overhang:	Tom Keller

Children and Students

Babies	Room 3:	Kay Stanford, Sandra Bridges
Toddlers	Room 24:	Lynn Ernst, Savannah Martin
Pre-K	Room 25:	Dustin & Emily Herb
K, 1st and 2nd Grade	Room 28:	John & Pam Humphrey
3rd-6th Grade Boys	Room 202:	Ric Zittrouer, Richie Mills
3rd-6th Grade Girls	Room 204:	Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton
Youth Guys & Girls	Room 206:	Bobby DeLoach, Shawn Champion, Avalon DeLoach