



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRDALE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

## SEEK THE WELFARE OF THE CITY



In 586 BC, the city of Jerusalem fell to the invasion of the Babylonians. The temple was destroyed and many citizens were exiled to Babylon. It was in this context that Jeremiah wrote a letter to God's people. He encouraged them that the exile would end and that there would be judgment on those who did not seek the Lord or listen to His words. Jeremiah also encouraged the exiles to, "seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf." Even as exiles, they were to continue living as productive citizens, working and praying towards the betterment of the city where they lived.

Believers today are a different type of exile. We are citizens of heaven living in a fallen world, waiting for the return of Christ

and the redemption of creation. The New Testament encourages us in the same way Jeremiah encouraged the exiles in Babylon - we are not of this world, but kept in this world (John 17:14-15), we are to be subject to the governing authorities (Rom. 13:1; Matt. 22:21), and we are to pray for our leaders (1 Tim. 2:1-4). Even while we live amidst brokenness and sin, we can work to make the communities we live in better to the glory of God.

At the end of the month, there are two opportunities to serve our local community. On October 29, we are hosting a Trunk or Treat event. Last year, we had a huge turnout of Fairdale families. If you are able, host a trunk or donate candy. Please pray that relationships would be formed

and strengthened through this event and that Gospel conversations would be initiated.

On November 1, Re:Center Ministries is hosting their Fall Festival at our church. FBC Fairdale partners with Re:Center in a number of different ways, and this event is a wonderful opportunity to support Re:Center financially and see the ways that God is changing lives through their work. Make plans to attend and commit to praying for Re:Center as they bring the Gospel into the lives of the homeless population of Louisville.

Please pray that as our church "seeks the welfare of the city," we would do so to the glory of God with the gospel of Jesus Christ front and center!

# Homecoming: A Testimony to God's Faithfulness

**Jake Beattie | Pastor**

**W**hat an awesome Homecoming Sunday! If you were here you know how great the day was. The weather was fantastic, the company was a joy, the food was delicious, and the Word was proclaimed with fervor!

I really look forward to Homecoming each year. This year was such a special treat to have Steve and Carol Thompson with us as our special guests. For anyone who has been to Ecuador on our summer mission trip you know how enjoyable it is to hear from Steve and Carol and how encouraging it is to see what God is doing in Ecuador. For those of you who have not been on the trip, hopefully now you have an idea of how encouraging they are to hear from and how God is working in great ways in Ecuador. For them to make a special trip to Fairdale while being back in the states is a huge honor.

Steve is a fantastic story teller. One of the things our teams love doing when we visit Ecuador is being invited to their home and hearing Steve share stories of ways God has worked in the local area of Ecuador. The way Steve tells the stories are very engaging and keeps your interest. One of the things I appreciated so much is when Steve got up to preach, he could have told story after story of God's faithfulness in his life and ministry, but he made a point to say that is not what we needed to hear. We needed to hear from God's word, and that is exactly what he proceeded to do - preach God's word.

One thing I think about when I talk with Steve and Carol or think about their time in Ecuador, I think of how they have been

faithful to the Lord for the 38 years they have ministered in Ecuador. It encourages me to be faithful in the ministry God has given me, and it reminds me that one key aspect of faithfulness is to hold fast to the word of God. For you and I to be faithful in ministry we don't need to be excellent story tellers or great conversationalists. We need to cling to God's word and depend on it and on God to do the work while we live in obedience to him.



Having Steve and Carol with us for homecoming was such an encouragement to me, and I hope it was for you as well. Let us all strive to remain faithful where God has us. Let us all strive to depend on God's word in every endeavor we pursue. Let us all trust that God will do the work, and as he does, let us strive to live in obedience to him.

# God's Word & Assurance of Our Salvation

**Garth Farmer | Minister of Youth**

Last weekend was our student ministry's 4th Annual Fall Retreat. This is a weekend where our students travel to Country Lake Christian Resort and spend time together having fun and studying the Word of God. The weekend was particularly special for me as our guest speaker was Dylan Joyner, a pastor in Atlanta and my best friend from high school. It's always an encouragement to see how God is working in the lives of people whom you've known for so long. Dylan preached to our students on the topic of assurance. Can we as believers have assurance of salvation? Is it something that we should be striving after? These were questions that were considered for our students this weekend and the Bible has some clear and encouraging answers.

## ***We have Assurance***

*"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ"*

Philippians 1:6

Just as we are reminded each month in our own services, we were reminded this weekend that God has made an incredible promise to those who have placed their faith in Christ. If God began the good work of salvation in someone then he will bring it to completion. He will not abandon them or let them fall away. Rather, he will keep them and make their faith complete in the end. Paul reminds us of this same thing in Romans 8:30. "And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified." If we have believed in Christ and therefore

been justified then we can also rest in the knowledge that we will be glorified.

## ***We can strive after Assurance***

In 2 Peter 1:3-8, Peter provides a long list of admirable qualities that are gifts given to believers. These qualities include virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly affection, and love. Believers regularly exhibit these qualities because they recognize that Christ has rescued them from sin and called them to live for his glory. But while these qualities are gifts born out of a heart that has been transformed by believing the gospel, they also serve a dual purpose in that they provide an assurance that our faith is legitimate. Peter says this in verse 10 after listing the qualities, "Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall." Our lives are not only testimonies to the work that Christ has done in us when he saved us, but they are also the evidence that confirms our calling.

Church, assurance of faith is something that many believers, both young and mature, struggle with. It is a battle that tends to come and go at times. It was a great reminder this weekend for our students and myself that believers can have assurance and that they can also strive for it.