

# First Light

First Baptist Church - Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Vol. XLVIII - No. 20

Website: [www.fbcoakridge.org](http://www.fbcoakridge.org) • Email: [fbcoffice@fbcoakrige.org](mailto:fbcoffice@fbcoakrige.org)

October 15, 2024



All children, babies through fifth grade, are invited to parents' night out on October 25th from 5:30 to 7:30. Sign up in the lobby. Parents night out will be on the 4th Friday of every month. If you are interested in volunteering this month or in the future, please sign up.



## 3rd Annual Jim McCall Pickleball Benefit Event (held at Jackson Square Tennis Courts)

The 3rd Annual Jim McCall Pickleball Benefit Event will be held Sunday, October 27, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., at Jackson Square tennis courts. Hamburgers and hot dogs provided. Donations accepted for the Agape Help Center at First Baptist Church, Oak Ridge in Jim's honor. For more information on this event, contact Jodie Johnson.

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# REFLECTIONS

*"Calling them like I see them"*

Starting this Wednesday (Oct. 16), we're going to use our Bible Study time to consider the dangers of Christian Nationalism. If that sounds familiar to you, it might be because I gave a plug to an event in Knoxville last month that featured a lecturer who is an expert on that subject. Many of you attended that lecture. I did too and I was really looking forward to it. Unfortunately, I don't feel like it was a very helpful lecture for those who hadn't encountered the topic before. It was just too heady, a bit too stuck in the clouds to be of any use to anyone who still bothers to walk with their own two feet!

Just to give an idea of the event, the host of the event asked the lecturer after several hours of lecturing to give a simple working definition of what Christian Nationalism means. Do you know what that means?! It means that after hours of lecturing, the guy never gave a clear picture of the broadest topic that he was there to be an expert on. Not for nothing, but he didn't spit on out even after that! (I could say more about my frustrations, but let me stop there).

And if you, like the people at that lecture, might be wondering what Christian Nationalism is, I'll end with that definition:

*Christian nationalism is a cultural framework that idealizes and advocates a fusion of Christianity with American civic life.*

*Christian nationalism contends that America has been and should always be distinctively "Christian" from top to bottom – in its self-identity, interpretations of its own history, sacred symbols, cherished values, and public policies – and it aims to keep it that way.*

*But the "Christian" in Christian nationalism is more about identity than religion. It carries with it assumptions about nativism, white supremacy, authoritarianism, patriarchy, and militarism.*

I'm devoting the next 3 Wednesday night Bible studies to the topic because it's worth talking about and understanding. Christian Nationalism isn't some ideological playground for scholars to frolic in; it's a real danger to a functioning democracy and especially for those of us who treasure what it means to be Baptist. (I'll be dedicating my next articles to that subject, so keep reading). If you haven't tried Wednesday night Bible study, or haven't been in a while, maybe give this short series a try. We meet at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall and someone usually brings something to snack on. I hope to see you there.

<https://bjconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/WhatIsChristianNationalism.pdf>

## *Before His Presence with Singing*

Must Jesus bear the cross alone, and all the world go free?.

Transport yourself by imagination to the 1st century streets of Jerusalem. Picture Roman soldiers wearing armor and carrying swords. The citizenry is in long dress-like garments. Sandals. Dirt streets. No such thing as a car. Everyone's on foot. The streets are lined with people watching as Jesus is paraded by laboring exhaustedly under the weight of a huge wooden cross. Sweating.

He stumbles. You involuntarily lunge to help him. If compassion is within you. If you see Jesus' innocence and the undeserved cruelty imposed on him, you have a natural and compelling answer to this hymn's question: "No, there's a cross for everyone, and there's a cross for me."

Jesus told those around him, especially his closest followers, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." The emphasis in that statement at that time to those people was on the suffering. "Life with me will be costly, unpleasant at times, even painful." But, the ultimate reality of a true self-denying cross-carrying life is abundant life; eternal life.

"How happy are the saints above who once went sorrowing here! But now they taste unmingled love and joy without a tear."

*Must Jesus bear the cross alone  
And all the world go free?  
No, there's a cross for everyone,  
And there's a cross for me.*

*The consecrated cross I'll bear  
Till death shall set me free,  
And then go home my crown to wear,  
For there's a crown for me.*

*Upon the crystal pavement, down  
At Jesus' pierced feet,  
Joyful, I'll cast my golden crown  
And His dear name repeat.*

*O precious cross! O glorious crown!  
O resurrection day!  
Ye angels, from the stars come down  
And bear my soul away.*

*By Thomas Shepherd*

In Christ, *Tim*

*Peace, Rory*




**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO WORK IN THE PATCH!**

**PATCH HOURS:**  
**Wed.-Sun.: 1 PM - 6 PM**  
**Sat.: 10 AM-6 PM**  
**Closed Mon. & Tues.**

----- **LIBRARY LINES** -----

On Friday the Movie Discussion Group will be viewing *October Sky*. Homer Hickam, who was born in West Virginia, had a real interest in rocket science, and when he was an adult he wrote the book *The Rocket Boys*, which was later made into a movie but with the name changed to *October Sky*. The library has a copy of the book *October Sky* in the library (Call # Y912 Hic). In addition, we have two other books by Hickam—*Red Helmet* (Call # F Hic) and *We Are Not Afraid: Strength and Courage from the Town that Inspired the #1 Best-Seller and Award-Winning Movie October Sky* (Call # 170 Hic). You might want to read one or more of these books.

Also, recently a group from our church went on a hike through the former “Wheat” community. The library has a very comprehensive book written by Dorathy S. Money maker, a church member now deceased. In the book she gave extensive details about the community of Wheat. If you are interested in looking into this further, you will find the book on the bottom shelf below the section holding biographies (it is a large book that will not fit on the regular shelves). The book is called *We'll Call It Wheat*; the call number is 976.8 Mon.



**Discussion Group**

**Movie:** *October Sky* (1999) starring Jake Gyllenhaal.

**Viewing:** Streaming on many pay-per-view platforms for -\$4.

**Time & Place:** Friday, Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. at Joy Reedy's home - 109 Downing Drive, O.R.

**Questions:** Contact Mike Crowell, Brandon Weaver, or Joy Reedy.

## Missions Opportunity for Youth

We will be going to Corbin, KY on November 2nd to help Scarlett Jasper and Olive Branch ministries set up their Christmas box operation that operates out of the gym at First Baptist Church Corbin. We will be meeting at the First Baptist Oak Ridge at 8 am on Nov 2nd and will be returning in the afternoon. When we return the youth will have dinner and have some structured time to discuss the experience. Pick up at First Baptist Oak Ridge will be at 7 pm. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

## FBCFBC-- NOVEMBER

Our November 4th book club book is *The Situation Room: The Inside Story of Presidents in Crisis* by George Stephanopoulos. Because this book has only recently been published, there is a long wait list to borrow it from area libraries. For this reason, we are announcing in advance this book as our book club read for November in order to give participants time to locate the book. Melody Turner will lead the discussion.

Our book club meets at 12:30 in the library. You are welcome to bring your lunch. Questions? Contact Dianne.



**Friday Nov 8, 3-7**  
**Saturday Nov 9, 10-6**

The Holiday Bazaar is returning in November. We are raising funds for new church windows. There is a box in the narthex on the coffee bar where you can place donations for sale, such as books, scarves, purses, handmade crafts, holiday décor (Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving, etc.), gift items, and so on. Please dig deep and give often!

## PASSPORT YOUTH CAMP

**When:** June 30 – July 4th

**Where:** Berea College, Berea, KY

**Your Cost:** \$100 before Jan. 1st/ \$150 after Jan. 1st.

Total cost to the church is \$478 for this reason there is a large fundraising need to keep the student price at \$100. Due to this we are requiring 2 things for student registration:

- 5 hrs. of fundraising or missions - Opportunities including pumpkin patch (Oct) and Spaghetti dinner (Apr) as well as missions opportunities through the youth group.
- 5 church attendances - These include Sunday School, Sunday Service, and Feast

Sign up sheet is in the Narthex

## Prayer Requests

**IMMEDIATE:** Dwayne & Hilda Geske (Lois Scott's nephew & niece.) Debbie Hoedel (Lois & Gerald Scott's daughter). Frank Janous. Wilma Massengale (Diana Giles' aunt). Lynn Satterfield (Gary Giles' sister). Bobby Bowers and family. Greg Helton. Nena Moss. Jim Gibson. Pat Smith (friend of Peggy & Jim Walls). Sandra Clift (Melody Turner's stepmom). Dwayne Bounds (Tim Bounds' brother). Andy Hutson. Kara Davis (Tim Bounds' niece). Jim Younkin. Becky & Eric (friends of Jonathan & Sarah Ray). Ricky Phelps (Tim Bounds' nephew). Stoney Lowell (friend of Jodie Johnson). Barbara Prewett (Karen McCall's friend). Jack Burgan (Jeff Burgan's dad). Larry Carter. Dave Bunton. April West (friend of Diana Giles). Katie Emmerson (Ellin Ward's daughter). Debbie Pulliam (Carol O'Shaughnessy's sister). Heidi Rose Harris. Bruce Marshall. Ray Roach (Tim Bounds' brother-in-law). Jackie Laney's dad, Barney. Sherry Bath (Gigi Naeve's friend). Mark Ebeler (friend of Carol O'Shaughnessy). Tammy Lee (Kay Smith's sister). Adrian Flory. Sandra Burns (Johelen Stephenson's cousin). Wanda Vines (friend of Sandy Davidson). Carolyn Maples (Brandon Weaver's aunt). Joyce Dippel (Jan Stoutland's sister). Robert Darnell (Diane Qualls' brother). Frances Darnell (Diane Qualls' mother). Richard Evans. Cheryl King (Diane William's sister-in-law). Ben Davidson (Tom Davidson's nephew). Mary Jane Williams.

**LONG TERM:** Peggy Scott. Darla Sutton. Virginia Griffith (Lisa Bowers' mother). Bobby Cline (Mark Belvin's brother-in-law). Larry Fields. Scott Ethridge. Rick Nation. Jo Ann Tunstall. Theresa Bowers.



## NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING

### ALEXANDER GUEST HOUSE:

Katie Landis, RM. 217.

### CANTERFIELD OF OAK RIDGE:

Frank Janous, RM. 216.

Jean Webster, RM. 303.

### COURTYARDS SENIOR LIVING:

Dot Senn, RM. 105.

### LIFE CARE CENTER OF BLOUNT COUNTY:

Norval Ziegler.

### SHANNONDALE OF MARYVILLE:

Shirlene Dale, RM. 114.

## Our Ministry Continues Throughout the Week

Church Office: 483-4615 /483-4657

### OUR STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rory Naeve  
Minister of Music: Rev. Tim Bounds  
Minister of Children: Hannah Simic  
Minister of Youth: Rev. Shawn Simic  
Church Secretary: Lola Murray  
Facilities Manager: Chris Peterson

### Wednesday Services

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study  
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday Services

10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship  
5:30 p.m. Feast (Youth)



fbc  
**Oak Ridge**

*Loving God, Loving Others*

Our services are streamed live and recorded at:

[www.fbcoakridge.org/live-streaming](http://www.fbcoakridge.org/live-streaming)