

REDEEMING THE TIME

Recently, I have had conversations with those who say this has been the fastest passing summer they have ever had. It began with the close of school for the children, and then, we raced through family vacations, vacation Bible school, a visit to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum, and summer events like the Fourth of July and lake days. Here we are at the end scratching our heads and wondering, "How?"

But in reality, the summer passed no more quickly than any of the other summers we have ever lived. June and July had the same amount of weeks, days, hours, and minutes, but reality is that we are constantly finding ways to spend that time. Sometimes we expend them in more busyness and sometimes less, but it is all the same time.

As I thought about the disappointment of passing time, I thought of the Apostle Paul's words to both the Ephesian and Colossian churches, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, **redeeming the time**, because the days are evil (Ephesians 5:16, Col. 4:5). Though the passages are not completely identical, Paul makes it clear what he means by redeeming the time, and it is not a certain activity that he has in mind. Paul means by "redeeming the time" for us to "walk in the wisdom of the Lord." He calls this in Galatians 5 "walking in the Spirit." Why? Because the days are evil, and the world makes every attempt to rob you of your time that you could spend living in God's will.

The alternative is living every moment of every day walking in God's will. His will may be family vacation, Sunday evening worship, SALT Saturday witnessing, or a walk in the woods, but "redeeming the time" to Paul is nothing else than living out the will of the One who knows all eternity, so that He can lead us into paths of eternal value.

— Pastor Rusty



SERVE

Ministry Opportunities

As the Fall approaches, find a place to use your gifts for the Lord

- Sunday School opportunities: (beginning Aug 7)
Two Year Teacher and Assistant
- Wed. night Preschool/Children opportunities:
(beginning August 17)
3/4 Year Music Assistant
- Nursery Volunteer Opportunities:
All service times
- Various Committee Opportunities
- Choir and Music Ministry Opportunities

(Check with a church staff member to get more information)

AUGUST 7—SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION DAY
BIBLE DAY FOR FIRST GRADE

AUGUST 17—WEDNESDAY NIGHT KID'S ACTIVITIES & FAMILY FELLOWSHIP MEALS BEGIN

FBCBR 907 East Main St. Blue Ridge, GA 30513
brfbc@blueridgefbc.org 706.632.2763
Bob Richardson, Senior Pastor bob.richardson@blueridgefbc.org 912.550.1842
Rusty Thomas, Associate Pastor rusty.thomas@blueridgefbc.org 706.258.2654
Pat Young, Childhood Ministries Coordinator
pat.young@blueridgefbc.org 770.316.6575
Martha Buchanan, Ministry Assistant
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Where has the summertime gone? As the old saying goes, "time flies when you are having fun." So many wonderful events took place this summer that strengthened the fellowship of the Church. I thank God for how He is growing and strengthening His Church here at FBC Blue Ridge.

As I write this we are so close to hosting our first ever missions conference. When I came to be your pastor I was asked what is my greatest passion in ministry. My first answer is the preaching of God's Word. A close second answer is to lead the church to do all that we can to get the gospel to the unreached people groups of the world. For almost nine years I have tried to keep before us the necessity of God's mission to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth. You all have prayed for this, given for this purpose and have sent many from the church to get involved in this task. Praise the Lord for that!

Be in prayer for our time together at this missions conference. It will start on Wednesday, August 10th at Willow Falls Wedding Venue with an international meal. Each night we gather (Wednesday-Friday and Sunday morning) we will hear reports from missionaries serving in countries like Japan, Peru, and Senegal, as well as those reaching the unreached in our cities in America. You will hear wonderful preaching from faithful men of God who are giving their lives to the task of missions. May God increase our love for the unreached of the world and may He put in each one of us a desire to pray more, give more, go more, and send more so that all people groups of the world will become worshippers of our Great God!

Serving our Great King Together,
Pastor Bob

August 2022						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
School begins tomorrow. PRAY for the power and protection of the Lord’s presence over our schools, every child, every teacher, every classroom.	1 First day of school for Fannin students Aerobics 5:30 pm Deacons’ Meeting 6 pm	2. College Bible Study 7 pm	3. NO ACTIVITIES @ CHURCH	4. Aerobics 5:30 pm	5.	6.
7. SS Promotion Day Bible Day for 1st grade Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 10:45 Evening Worship 6:00	8. Aerobics 5:30 pm	9. Heart to Hands 10 am College Bible Study 7 pm	10. International Dinner Willow Falls Wedding Venue 340 Willow Creek Drive Blue Ridge - 6 pm NO ACTIVITIES @ CHURCH	12. Session 2 FBC @ 6 pm Kevin Ezell (NAMB)	Session 3 FBC @ 6 pm Vann & Vanessa Brock (Peru) Gordon Fort (IMB)	13.
14. Sunday School 9:30 am Session 4 FBC @ 10:45 AM MICHAEL/VALERIE STEPHENS (C & MA SENEGAL) PASTOR BUCK BURCH GBMB No Evening Worship	15. Aerobics 5:30 pm	16. Men’s Prayer Time 6:30 am College Bible Study 7 pm	17. *Fall Weekly Schedule Family Fellowship Meal Serving begins @5 pm Make your reservation by noon on Tuesday.	18. Aerobics 5:30 pm <i>Women’s Fellowship Gathering A/Y Center 6:30 pm</i>	19.	20.
21. Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 10:45 Evening Worship 6:00	22. Aerobics 5:30 pm	23. College Bible Study 7 pm	24. *Fall Weekly Schedule	25. Aerobics 5:30 pm	26.	27. S.A.L.T. “Serving And Loving Together”
28. Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 10:45 Evening Worship 6:00	29. Aerobics 5:30 pm	30. College Bible Study 7 pm	31. *Fall Weekly Schedule	<i>Ephesians 2:10 says, “We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” We serve and volunteer confidently, knowing that God has prepared the way for us!</i>		

* FALL WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun. 9:30 am Sunday School

10:45 am Morning Worship

6:00 pm Evening Worship

Mon. 5:30 pm Aerobics

Tues. 7:00 pm College Bible Study

Wed. 3:30 pm Painting with a Purpose

5:00 pm Family Fellowship Meal (begins 8/17)

5:45 pm Preschool/Children Bible Study/Choir

ESL Class

6:00 pm Youth Bible Study—A/Y Center

Prayer Mtg./Adult Bible Study-Sanctuary

7:15 pm Worship Choir Practice

Thurs. 5:30 pm Aerobics

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DEACON OF THE WEEK—AUGUST

07 DON PEEK 706-632-3369

14 FRED COCHRAN 850-585-5132

21 BRIAN HINMAN 912-547-1256

28 MARK DRESSLER 706-897-6219

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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1. Don & Carolyn Hall (A) Destiny Carroll

3. Beverly Dale Allison Nuckolls

4. Bo Chance

5. Pastor Bob & Robbin (A)

Pastor Rusty & Nicole (A) Melanie Gentry

8. Lisa Dent Chris Thigpen Jim Quillen

11. Robbin Richardson

12. Barbara Turner

13. Jim Sansone Lydia Arnall

16. Bill Prather Jerry & Blon Gordon (A)

17. Don & Della Peek (A) Chase Culpepper

18. Jim Ezell Brian Hinman

19. Kenneth McTaggart Jonas Thomas

21. Kurt Linden

22. Amy Cole

25. Linda Sones Robbie Cole

26. Sondra Geniesse

30. Amy Beavers

May the blessings of God abide with you beyond this Special Day, and forever.