



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GASTON

## BRADY BLOG

### A WRITTEN WORD FROM FBCG'S SENIOR PASTOR

Dear Church Family,

On January 17<sup>th</sup> of 1781 the Battle of Cowpens took place in the upstate of South Carolina during the American Revolution. There were 1,000 British troops present that day for the battle and 1,500 American soldiers (including Continental Army Regulars and local militia). Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton led the Tories that day and was quite confident and cocky considering he had received intelligence about the movement of the Patriots in Cowpens. As has been said a lot recently with the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation's birth coming this year (2026), the war was indeed, won in the South. You can argue that it was indeed won in South Carolina. Thanks to South Carolina native Revolutionary War Generals Francis Marion, Thomas Sumter, and Thomas Pickney, General Cornwallis was forced to spend much more time in the South (especially South Carolina), than he anticipated (per his personal diaries). He had his eye on ending this civil war and defeating General Washington up in Virginia. But he was forced to fight battles in the South due to the resilience of local militias. This gave Washington much needed time to get ready for the end of the war, with the help of Marquis De Lafayette and the French.

At the Battle of Cowpens, General Daniel Morgan, who was in command, decided to fake a retreat. At the beginning of the Battle the British army came in full capacity over the large hill that still remains in Cowpens today. The Patriots began to fall back to make the British believe they were retreating. Then, from a smaller hill came the Militia men, mostly from South Carolina, to come and attack the British. That day ended in 850 casualties for England and only 150 for the American cause. It has been recorded through history that not only was Daniel Morgan a brilliant military tactician, but he could encourage and ignite his men brilliantly. It has been passed down that during the Battle of Cowpens he shouted, 'Charge on' and 'Advance on', as his men surged forward to defeat the British, and change the tide of the American Revolution, sending Cornwallis to the hills of western North Carolina. As FBCG enters into 2026, I want to echo Morgan's words, 'Advance'. 2025 was an amazing year in the life of our Church. God did some incredible things. But we've got to keep going. We can't retreat now! We've got to advance. Sure, like the soldiers that day at the Battle of Cowpens we have some impressive 'battle victories' in our past. We've seen God save lost souls, build His Church, and send people out to fulfill the great commission. But guess what, we've got to advance. I truly believe that there is even more that our great God wants to do through the work and ministry of FBCG. Our 2026 word of the year is 'Advance'. On Wednesday January 7<sup>th</sup> I'll be casting the vision for this upcoming year for our Church. As a Church we have to advance the Gospel even further, advance our personal witness further, and continue to advance our building program even further for the future generations of our Church and community. Let's do this!

With Love,  
Pastor Brady

*Rev. R. Brady Henderson*



### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GASTON STAFF

Rev. R. Brady Henderson, Senior Pastor

Rev. Steve Kittrell, Associate Pastor

Mrs. Sherrell Ott, Minister of Music

Mr. Allen Ott, Media Director

Mrs. Velvet Lucas, Administrative Assistant

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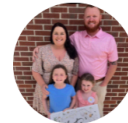
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### JANUARY EXTENDED CARE SCHEDULE

Jan 4 Team 6 Traci Rish, Cheryl Reynolds, Matt Drawdy, Carla Sightler, Bailey Speares, Megan Spires  
Jan 11 Team 1 Collette Knight, Jo Lynn Martin, Wendy Sanford, Patti Reynolds, Pam Thomas, Erin Taylor  
Jan 18 Team 2 Marissa Bailey, Rhonda Smith, Sammy Smith, Ally Smith  
Jan 25 Team 3 Sandy Poole, Bonita Mishoe, Aggie Sigh, Jim Thomas, Eden Barfield, Matt Barfield

### Weekly Schedule

#### Sunday

09:30 AM Men's Prayer Group  
09:45 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Morning Worship

#### Monday

12:30 PM Motivational Monday

#### Tuesday

12:00 PM Intercessory Prayer Warriors

#### Wednesday

06:00 PM Family Supper  
07:00 PM Midweek Worship, Youth,  
GAs, RAs, Mission Friends & Acteens

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GASTON

121 Oakey Springs Drive  
Gaston SC 29053

### Library Annoucement

Happy New Year!  
I hope everyone had a blessed  
and safe Christmas

Email: marilynhook1@gmail.com



Our upperclassmen and collegiates will be attending Converge Collegiate Conference February 6-8 in Myrtle Beach. Registration ends soon, please see Adam for details.

We also have some important deadlines for Summersalt coming up so please make sure your student signs up soon if they haven't already. As a reminder, Summersalt is for current 6th-12th graders. We'll be attending June 1-5. Don't let your student miss out on a life-changing week!



Women on Mission

The New Year has begun and so have our mission opportunities. First thanks to everyone who contributed to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We collected \$9,231.00. These funds will help missionaries worldwide.

January is a slower month. We have our ladies meeting on Jan 19th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be having soup, salad and dessert for our meal. There will be a sign up sheet in the Welcome Center. Our speaker will be Tommi Caldwell. We will have an activity planned. Hope to see everyone there.

The GA girls are starting some new literature. Be in prayer for the leaders and the girls.

Prayers for our missionaries worldwide.



Children's Worship

- Jan 4 Sandy Drawdy, Sherry Rampey
- Jan 11 Shawn Goff, Melissa Goff, Ally Smith
- Jan 18 Traci Rish, Bonita Mishoe
- Jan 25 Emily Petrey, Liz Henderson, Stafford Johnson



**BROTHERHOOD**  
Meeting January 27<sup>th</sup> at  
7:00 pm. Travis Henderson  
will be the speaker

**SPIRITUAL WARRIORS**  
January 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am in  
the Fellowship Hall, fried  
chicken will be served, bring  
sides and/or dessert

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT**  
January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm  
Come join us for food  
and a bonfire



JANUARY MUSIC NOTES

A New year is upon us! What a great 2025 we had as a church family. We have had some new members join our praise team, our children's choir is thriving, and we were blessed this year to have Lee Sanford and Kaylyn Joseph build a younger praise team – Jesus Crew! As a Worship driven ministry, from the children's choir up to the adult choir, our focus is to exalt the Savior! We are not here to entertain or bring attention to any individuals, we have one purpose and that is to lift up the name of Jesus and to focus our thoughts and minds toward corporate worship when we are together! We strive to sing and play music that honors God. We have different styles of music, but we have one mission! May God continue to grow and bless our music ministry during 2026 and if you are interested in joining our choir, we will have our first rehearsal of the new year on Sunday, January 11th at 5:00 PM in the choir room, up the stairs behind the sanctuary! We would love to have you!

Joyfully Serving,  
Sherrell Ott



Upcoming  
EVENTS

JANUARY DEACONS ON CALL

- Jan 4 Stafford Johnson (803) 908-9090
- Jan 11 Duane Johnson (803) 626-6700
- Jan 18 Chris Pound (803) 518-2143
- Jan 25 Walker Spires (803) 605-4357

- Jan 2 Family Fun Night at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, Join for food & a Bonfire
- Jan 7 Spiritual Warriors at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall
- Jan 7 Special called Church conference to approve 2026 budget, after service
- Jan 10 Still Waters Sisterhood meeting at 10:00 am, see Kaylyn Johnson for information
- Jan 11 Choir practice at 5:00 pm
- Jan 13 Good News club begins at Frances Mack Intermediate school
- Jan 18 New Members Class at 9:45 am, sign up in the Welcome Center
- Jan 19 Women on Mission will meet at 6:00 pm, Project will be OCC and Tommi Caldwell will be the speaker
- Jan 22 Family Matters 3.0 at 6:30 pm, sign up in the Welcome Center
- Jan 25 Lunch & Learn for the Children's Workers after Service
- Jan 27 Brotherhood meeting at 7:00 pm, Travis Henderson will be the speaker

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3
				Traci Rish	Erika Browing
5	6	7	8	9	10
Ed Duraski	Chris Richardson	Randa Burton  Family Supper @ 6:00 pm Youth Supper & Bible Study @ 6:15 pm-8:00 pm, GA/RA & Mission Friends 7 to 8 pm	Shannon Edwards	Elizabeth (Lynn) Barber Tommi Caldwell	
12	13	14	15	16	17
Sandy Drawdy Isaac Hull Brittany Burns	Kaylan Bailey McKenna Dougherty	Clara Thomas Samantha White Jennifer Young  Family Supper @ 6:00 pm Youth Supper & Bible Study @ 6:15 pm- 8pm, GA/RA & Misson Friends 7 to 8 pm	Crystal Robinson	Diane Sharpe	Rev. Steve Kittrell Timothy Smith
19	20	21	22	23	24
Diane Thomas	Katie Johnson Sheri Wood	Family Supper @ 6:00 pm Youth Supper & Bible Study @ 6:15 pm-8 pm, GA/RA & Misson Friends 7 to 8 pm	Allison St. Clair		Troy Bivens Steven Kirkland Dalton Painter
26	27	28	29	30	31
Courtney Painter	Patricia Haynes Elizabeth Horvath	William Dougherty  Family Super @ 6:00 pm Youth Supper & Bible Study @ 6:15 pm-8 pm, GA/RA & Mission Friends 7 to 8 pm	Sabrina Bailey	Stacy Painter Jared Poole Vickie Olsen	Serenity Painter Jake Rish Jim Thomas
Family Supper 6pm - Youth Supper & Bible Study 6:15-8pm - GA/RA/Mission Friends 7-8pm Worship Service 7pm					