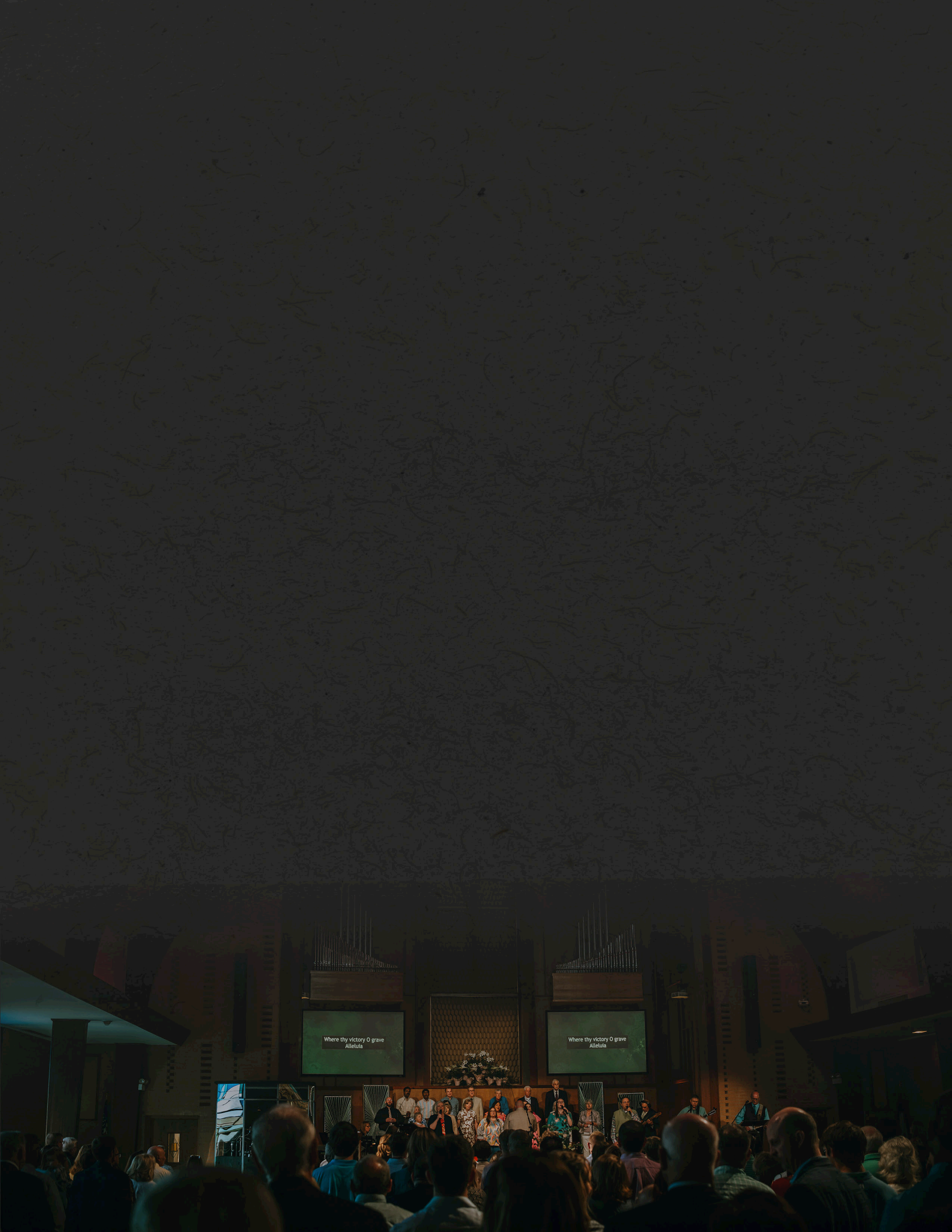




WE ARE  
SENT  
TO  
SERVE

MINISTRY JOURNEY - YEAR TWO



Where thy victory O grave  
Alleluia

Where thy victory O grave  
Alleluia

## OUR THEME PASSAGE:

WHOEVER WANTS TO BECOME GREAT AMONG YOU WILL BE YOUR SERVANT, AND WHOEVER WANTS TO BE FIRST AMONG YOU WILL BE A SLAVE TO ALL. FOR EVEN THE SON OF MAN DID NOT COME TO BE SERVED, BUT TO SERVE, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY.

MARK 10:43-45



# A WORD FROM PASTOR DERRICK



# WE ARE SENT TO SERVE

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The call to be a Christian is a call to serve. First and foremost, we serve God. But, as scripture commands, we also serve one another. Consider Jesus' words to his disciples as they were vying for positions of authority, "whoever wants to become great among you will be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you will be a slave to all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mk 10:43-45.

So, we must take Jesus' example of servitude, humility, and sacrifice and allow that to be our focus and the very core of who we are as his followers. We must give our hearts and lives to Christ and allow his love to flow through us to others.

There is a specific way we can think about this servitude we're meant to have to others: We are sent to serve neighbors and nations. There's a sense that we're meant to serve each other and those near us. There's another very real sense that we're meant to serve the purposes of our Savior to the entire world. "Go, therefore...into all nations" is an essential element to the calling we have. So, let us be slaves and servants here and there, in Jesus' name. *We are sent to serve.*

Grace & peace,

Pastor Derrick



LEAD PASTOR



LaFayette  
**FIRST**  
*Baptist Church*

[WWW.LAFAYETTEFIRST.LIFE](http://WWW.LAFAYETTEFIRST.LIFE)

# OUR NEIGHBORS

## SERVE TEAMS

11 And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.

Christian Standard Bible (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2020), Eph 4:11–13.

We are all meant to serve in the body of Christ, to build it up in unity and maturity. First, we love each other and serve each other. Second, we find ways to be obedient to our Lord's calling in the life of the church. This year, we will focus on serve teams and getting them set up to ensure we're accomplishing all the Lord has for us. These teams are...

\*The Prayer Team

\*The "On Mission" Team

\*The Welcome Team

\*The Worship Team

The Connection Team

\*The Discipleship Team

\*The Next-Gen Team

\*The Care Team

## MY CIRCLE

Everyone can pray for someone, everyone can invite someone, and everyone can share their story. Each of us has someone in our circle of influence who doesn't know Jesus. If we all do our part to invite folks, God will help us connect with people to help them find and follow Jesus.

## CONNECTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Here are some of the opportunities you can get involved with this year to help reach out into our community. Dates and times will be announced later.

\*Grill Walks

\*Adopt a Block

\*Community Egg Hop

\*Love LaFayette

\*HoneyBee Festival

\*Concessions LHS

\*Christmas Parade

\*Trunk or Treat

\*Airborne

\*GriefShare

\*Etc.



# OUR NEIGHBORS

## PARTNERING IN MINISTRY

We already have several great partnerships through giving. However, we hope to add volunteer support to existing ministries and add additional partnerships as well.

\*Restore 6:34 - Restores the lives of formerly incarcerated women

\*The Care Mission - Assistance for hurting families primarily through food provision

\*Empty Stocking Fund - Providing a Christmas Meal to the food insecure families of Walker County

## FOSTER CARE & THE HOPE HOUSE

This year, we will become a level 1 partner with Families for Families, a foster care ministry. The Lord has laid on the heart of our pastor, a desire to have us more involved with foster care and we hope to also provide a space for foster care families in our area to come and get essential items they may need to help them care for the foster children in their care. We hope to use some of the space in the HOPE House to accomplish this.

Currently, in the HOPE House, we are in a collaborative relationship with Formation Counseling Services to provide Christian Counseling to folks in our community. Adding this foster care element will reach another area of ministry that has lacked access in our community and we are blessed to offer this because of the HOPE House and your support.



# THE NATIONS

## KENTUCKY

Each year we venture to Stearns, KY to work with Grant & Gina Hasty. They operate The Lord's Cafe (a ministry that feeds the hungry) and The Light Community (a farm with tiny homes designed to be a refuge for people). We will travel there to partner with them in October of 2025.

## INDIANA

Student Ministry Mission Trip - Westfield, Indiana - June 14 - 21, 2025

Group Mission Trips offers youth home repair mission trips known as Group Workcamps. At Group Workcamps, hundreds of teenagers from youth groups across the country repair and transform homes while deepening their faith and building new relationships with their peers and youth leaders. Contact Roger Stansell if you're interested.





# THE NATIONS

## CLARKSTON

We need not leave our state to go to the world. Clarkston, GA is the most diverse square mile in the nation. Over 205 languages are spoken in that town. We are currently working on a trip to minister to this community.

## ARGENTINA

December 2025, we will be partnering with pastor Javier of Iglesia Bautista Dios es Amor. We will help their church with community outreach to others as well as some leadership development with some of their young leaders. The cost of this trip is \$3000 which should include airfare, meals, and lodging. Contact pastor Derrick if you're interested. We also will be working along with our IMB prayer partners, Derek & Audrey Tucker, Chris & Rhonda Richard, Katelyn Dilker, and Olivia Shultz.

## PRAGUE

While we won't likely be traveling to Prague this year, we have entered into a prayer partnership with Cara Griggs, an IMB Missionary who works in the Czech Republic. We are prayerfully considering how this partnership may blossom into eventual trip opportunities.



# YOU ARE SENT TO SERVE

If you have interest or want to learn more, go to [onmission.lafayettefirst.life](https://onmission.lafayettefirst.life) or scan this QR code.



# GIVING JOURNEY

"EACH ONE MUST GIVE AS HE HAS DECIDED IN HIS HEART,  
NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR GOD LOVES  
A CHEERFUL GIVER." (2 CORINTHIANS 9:7)

## 2025 TOTAL

Ministry Budget: \$ 741,713.00

(Day Care Ministry - WeeCare: \$362,000.00)

### PERSONNEL TO LEAD MINISTRY

**\$411,960.00** **56%**

### GLOBAL MISSIONS MINISTRY

**\$68,163.00** **9%**

### RESOURCES TO FACILITATE MINISTRY

**\$110,040.00** **15%**

### OPERATIONS TO SUPPORT MINISTRY

**\$151,550.00** **20%**

# GIVING JOURNEY

The breakdown below provides insight into the total dollar amount needed on a weekly basis to accomplish the Ministry Plan. You'll also find the weekly amount broken down by our adult family members. As you'll see, even giving a little makes a big difference.

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## 2025 WEEKLY GIVING

**\$741,713.00/52 weeks = \$14,263.71**

**\$14,263.71 PER PERSON GIVING:**

**\$14,263.71 / 400 = \$35.66 / person each week**

**\*400 includes all adult family members who call LaFayette First home.**

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JESUS SAYS IN MATTHEW 6:21, "FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS,  
THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO".

HE'S TEACHING THAT WHAT WE GIVE OUR MONEY TO IS WHAT WE TEND TO LOVE THE MOST. THIS MEANS WHEN WE INVEST THE RESOURCES GOD HAS GIVEN US BACK INTO HIS CHURCH AND HIS KINGDOM, THOSE THINGS BECOME OUR PASSION. FOR THIS REASON, WE SHOULD ALWAYS LEARN TO ASK NEW QUESTIONS ABOUT GIVING AND GENEROSITY THAT WE MIGHT MATURE IN OUR LOVE FOR GOD AND HIS CHURCH. AS YOU CONSIDER THE GIVING JOURNEY (on the next page), TRY TO IDENTIFY WHAT QUESTION YOU'RE CURRENTLY ASKING ABOUT MONEY AND WHICH STEP CHARACTERIZES YOUR GIVING.

# GIVING JOURNEY

## CHEERFUL GIVER

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KEEP FROM GOD'S RESOURCES?

Generous givers live out their belief that God owns everything. They keep only what they need while investing the rest in His Kingdom.

## TITHER

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO GIVE FROM GOD'S RESOURCES?

Tithers believe God owns everything. They live off 90% and invest 10% in His Kingdom.

## CONSISTENT GIVER

WHAT DOES GOD SAY TO DO WITH GOD'S MONEY?

Consistent givers have an understanding that God owns everything. They give consistently, but they haven't yet reached 10%.

## OCCASIONAL GIVER

WHAT DO I DO WITH GOD'S MONEY?

Occasional givers are beginning to understand the concept of biblical stewardship. They haven't yet developed a regular pattern of giving and don't yet give a certain percentage, but they give.

## FIRST TIME GIVER

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY MONEY?

First time givers are moving in practice from owners to stewards. They have taken the first step of faith and invested something financially in God's Church and His Kingdom.

# GIVING JOURNEY

## FINANCIAL SAFEGUARDS

We take very seriously stewarding well the money you give to LaFayette First Baptist each week. The following financial practices and safeguards are in place for accountability purposes.

- All donations are placed in a locked bank bag and taken to the bank immediately following Sunday morning services. One of the counters will pick the bag up Monday morning. It will be opened and counted with at least two people present. Reports are created during Sunday counts, and are reconciled on a weekly basis with bank deposit records.
- Any cash gifts received in the church offices during the week are entered in a cash receipt book and placed in a locked cabinet.
- Voluntary Internal audits are conducted to ensure our financial systems are healthy and are operating with integrity.

Financial oversight and accountability is provided by the Finance Committee. The deacons are also responsible for providing approval to final Ministry Plans and budget decisions.

If you have questions about anything contained in this ministry plan or about the finances of LaFayette First, feel free to contact our Executive Assistant, Amber Ramirez, at [amber@lafayettefirst.life](mailto:amber@lafayettefirst.life) or the current Finance Committee Chairperson, Henry Gilbert. We'll do our absolute best to answer any questions you may have.



### In Person

During Sunday Morning Worship, you will have the opportunity to drop your gift in buckets or the giving boxes. For designated gifts or cash gifts, envelopes are available in the lobby and on the giving boxes.



### Online

Visit [lafayettefirst.life/give](http://lafayettefirst.life/give) to give online using your bank account, debit, or credit card. You can even set-up automated giving so you never forget to give. We do prefer an e-check or for you to offset your gifts in order to cut down online credit card fees.



### Text to Give

You may text any amount (i.e. \$50) to 84321 to give by text any time and anywhere. You'll receive a text back with further instruction.



### Church App

You may visit the app store on your mobile device and download the free **Church Center** app. This will allow you to give conveniently from anywhere.



### Mail

You may mail your gift to LaFayette First Baptist, 201 N. Main Street, LaFayette, GA, 30728. Or you may choose to use Bill Pay from your bank and have them mail it for you.



Just one touch  
I feel the presence of heaven

Just one touch  
I feel the presence of heaven



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