



# First Baptist Surfside

## October 12, 2023 Newsletter

This week my heart has been heavy watching the horrific scenes coming out of Israel. I have almost been nauseous to see the sub-human acts of violence and brutality towards innocent lives at the hands of the terrorist organization Hamas. I have tried to wrap my mind around what would lead someone to commit such unspeakable acts. The only conclusion I can come to is what we are seeing is pure and unfiltered evil. It is a reminder of the broken world we live in, because of the fall into sin by all of mankind. As I try to process how we as Christians should respond in the wake of current events, I am left with a mixture of caution and hope.

**A word of caution** – already I have seen multiple Pastors and Christian leaders claiming, “We are watching the Bible unfold before our eyes.” Others are claiming this is evidence we are in the end times and the return of Jesus is near. I would caution against that. My concern is those that are claiming this is the Bible unfolding before our eyes typically don’t have a verse of the Bible they point to. Instead, I think of Jesus’ words in Matthew 24 that we would have wars and rumors of wars, but that does not mean the end is here. Could this be events that will lead to the return of Christ? Absolutely. However, could the return of Christ still be 100 years away? Absolutely.

The danger comes if we speak with certainty that this is biblical prophecy being fulfilled and that Jesus is coming soon, and he doesn’t, it removes all credibility from the church that already is struggling to speak truth to the culture. Furthermore, when we focus on the end times too much instead of motivating the church, it distracts the church. The entire book of 2 Thessalonians was written to the church 2000 years ago that was so focused on the second coming that they became distracted from their mission.

**A word of hope** – At the same time, I believe the events happening in the world should be a wakeup call for the church. It should be a reminder that while we wait on the second coming, countless people are stepping into eternity without a relationship with Christ. God has placed us here for such a time as this. This should be the time when we cease living for ourselves, stop fighting amongst each other and get to work in fulfilling the Great Commission. Instead of spending our time trying to find fulfillment to prophecies that may or may not be there, let’s post and speak about the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who are lost.

Studying books like Daniel and Revelation should not cause us to get distracted by fear or figuring out minute details about the end times. Instead, they should give us hope. God is sovereign over all things! He sits on his throne today! For those who trust in him, we are on the winning side! One day this war will be a distant memory. Evil will be more. Those who surrender to Jesus will be with him for all eternity. Guess where our final home will be? New Jerusalem. There at the center will be King Jesus.

This Sunday we will continue to see the hope that we have through the book of Daniel. Hope to see you there!

In Christ,  
Pastor Nathan

### Sunday’s Worship Guide

**Daniel – A Tale Of Two Kingdoms**  
**Daniel 5:1-31; Handwriting On The Wall**

- I. Root Of Sin (1-9)
- II. Result Of Sin (10-31)
- III. Repent From Sin

### Weekly Schedule

#### Sundays

- 9:00 AM: Worship Service & Small Groups
- 10:30 AM: Worship Service & Small Groups
- 4:00 PM: Choir
- 5:00 PM: Surfside Kids
- 5:00 PM: Students
- 5:30 PM: Adults E2E

#### Tuesdays

- 7:00 AM: Men’s Bible Study at Bob Evans
- 11:00 AM: Grief Care
- 6:00 PM: Celebrate Recovery

#### Wednesdays

- 10:00 AM: Prayer Meeting and Psalms Study

**Small Groups Meet Throughout the Week at Various Locations**

### Upcoming Schedule

#### Saturday, October 14

- 8:00 AM: Men’s Breakfast
- 10:30 AM: wMu

#### Tuesday, October 17

- 3:00 PM: St. Gabriel Devotion

#### Wednesday, October 18

- 3:00 PM: NHC Devotion

#### Sunday, October 29

- 5:00 PM: Fall Festival

#### Wednesday, November 1

- 6:00 PM: Church Conference (Budget Q&A and Vote on Nominating Report)

#### Sunday, November 5

- Observance of the Lord’s Supper
- 11:45 AM: Mission Fundraiser Lunch

#### Sunday, November 12

- Vote on 2024 Proposed Budget and Deacons
- Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due
- Coats for the City Due
- 11:45 AM: Discover Class  
For New and Prospective Members



## New York Mission Trip Coats for the City

We are planning a New York Mission Trip, Nov 30 to Dec 3. If interested [click](#) here to register. You can drop your coats, gloves, and scarves off in the basket in the lobby.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14**

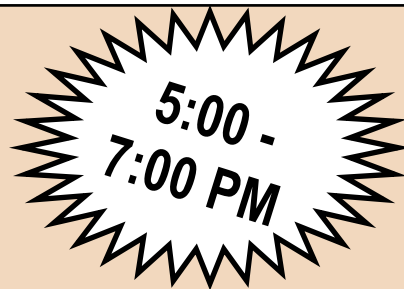
**MEN'S BREAKFAST: 8:00 AM**

**wMu: 10:30 AM**



# Fall Festival Sunday, October 29

Candy and Volunteers Needed



**Church Conference**  
**Wednesday, November 1 at 6:00 PM**  
**Budget Q&A and Vote on Nominating Report**



## Mission Fundraiser Lunch November 5

The Mission Fundraiser is Sunday, November 5th following the 10:30 worship service. A donation of \$10 per plate is recommended. Plates are pre-ordered and take-out only. The menu is fried chicken, green beans, potato salad, roll and dessert.



**DISCOVER  
FBC SURFSIDE**

**NEW & PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS**

## Discover Lunch Sunday, November 12 at 11:45 AM

For new and prospective members.  
Call the church office to order lunch  
and reserve your spot!



## Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due November 12

It is simple, get a shoebox from the lobby, fill it and return it by Sunday, November 12. Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Each box packed full of quality toys, school supplies, and personal care items becomes a tangible expression of God's immense love for the child. For many, it is their first gift ever!



**Sunday, November 12**

**Vote on the 2024 Proposed Budget and Deacons**



## Welcome New Member!

Please join us in welcoming Marion Loseby to our  
First Baptist Church Surfside family.