

Sunday :
 9:35 am Prayer in the Sanctuary
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Morning Worship

September 2019

Wednesday:
 5:30 pm Family Night Supper
 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir
 6:15 pm Midweek Prayer Service
 6:45 pm Mission Friends, Children in Action
 Youth Bible Study
 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Mission on Georgia Goal: \$1,000	2 Labor Day Church Office Closed	3	4	5 5:30 WMU Kick-off Social Hall, bring covered dish	6	7
8 11 a.m. Service 3:00 p.m. Finance Mgmt 4:00 p.m. Deacons' Mtg 5:00 p.m. Fellowship meal 6:00 p.m. Evening Service	9	10	11 6:30 p.m. Church Conference	12	13	14
15	16	17 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Club	18	19	20	21
22 Community Groups Begin	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 11 a.m. GA Baptist Missions Speaker Week of Prayer	30					

September Birthdays

- 1 Margaret Battles
- 2 Taylor Battles
- 4 Caroline Mullins
Mike Holley
Edwin Blanchard
- 5 Joyce Carson
- 8 Gene Cook
Gregory Murphy
- 9 Bailey Usry
- 16 Betsy Kinne
- 22 Megan Jones
- 23 Eugene Cook
- 24 Donald Dickert
- 26 Jean Harris
- 27 Nita Gibson
Vivien Bunn
- 29 Carolyn Atkins



What's Cookin' for Wednesday Night

September 4

Fried Chicken
Mac & Cheese, Cabbage
Tea, Coffee, Lemonade

September 11

Country Fried Steak
w/ Rice & Gravy
Sweat Peas
Tea, Coffee, Lemonade

September 18

Lasagna, Green Beans
Salad, Garlic Bread
Tea, Coffee, Lemonade

September 25

Breakfast at Night
Tea, Coffee, Lemonade

Adults \$8, Please make your reservations by Tuesday at noon



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TAKE UP YOUR CROSS?

Mark 8:34 records, "Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me'" (NIV).

Jesus tells us what we need to know to be a true follower of His in one sentence. It is a sentence that seems quite simple to complete from the outset, but is almost impossible to carry out—impossible if we try to control any part of it.

That brings us to the first part: Deny ourselves. Self-denial begins when we stop looking out for "number one"—to go from a selfish attitude to one of selflessness. Humans are selfish by nature. We do not have to teach a small toddler to be selfish. Everything in their world is *mine*. As children, we are taught to share, but it takes a conscious effort by a child to execute. Matthew 22:39 instructs us to love our neighbors as ourselves. The self-denial that is in the basic building blocks of what we are taught as children is brought to us in the words of Jesus here.

The second part contains the question at hand: Take up our cross. The cross, as used for capital punishment, had been around for at least 500 years at the time of Jesus' statement. Crucifixion was a slow and excruciating way to die, sometimes taking days. It was also one of the most humiliating ways to die. Humility is a crucial part of self-denial in being a follower of Jesus.

Finally, "follow me" denotes an ongoing act, not just a one-time event. All of these things go into our spiritual walk, and all must be present if we say we are a true follower of Jesus.

by M. Todd Jones