



First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018, VOLUME 53, NUMBER 12

December 2, 2018 at 6 p.m.

Hanging
of the **GREENS**

December 16, 2018
11:00 a.m.

The Chancel and Youth Choirs Present:
*An Early American
Lesson in Carols*

*Christmas Eve Candlelight
Communion Service at 5 p.m.*



EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- DECEMBER 2, MISSIONS BREAKFAST, 9 A.M.
- DECEMBER 2, HANGING OF THE GREENS, 6 P.M.
- DECEMBER 7, GLEANERS SS CLASS
LUNCHEON, 12 P.M.
- DECEMBER 12, THE CHANCEL CHOIR DRESS
REHEARSAL, 6:45 P.M.
- DECEMBER 16, THE CHANCEL AND YOUTH CHOIRS
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, 11 A.M.
- DECEMBER 17, FINANCE MEETING, 9:30 A.M.
- DECEMBER 24, OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS
- DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT
COMMUNION, 5 P.M.
- DECEMBER 25, OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS
- DECEMBER 30, PARENT CHILD DEDICATION
DURING THE MORNING WORSHIP

COMPLETE MONTHLY
CALENDAR ON BACK.

TO ADD AN EVENT TO OUR
CALENDAR, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE:
(910) 642-2139

PASTOR'S CORNER: "EXPECTATIONS AND PERSPECTIVE"



We all have narratives that inform the choices we make. Depending on the voices we listen to, our narrative will have a positive spin, or it will have a negative spin. If we listen primarily to the news media sources, it shouldn't be any surprise that the story we tell ourselves is that the world is in a dark place.

Let us all consider our expectations of the world around us. What do you expect of this world? What do you expect of the news? What do you expect from the people around you? What do you expect from your faith community? Seriously take a moment and reflect upon your expectations of others.

If we expect a perfect world, and do not 'see' a perfect world, it will cause frustration, and our narrative will undoubtedly be a sour one. If we expect perfection of the people around us, better yet, if we expect people to meet **our** expectations of who we believe they ought to be, we are setting the people around us to appear, in our eyes, as a failure – and creating a scenario for personal disappointment as a way of life.

In Matthew 24, Jesus says when we hear of wars, famines, earthquakes, and essentially, 'bad news', he tells us not to be alarmed, that these are **birth pangs – the beginning of the new thing that Jesus is about to do**. May we keep that perspective in mind as we prepare to worship God by lighting the candles that represent hope, faith, joy, peace, and ultimately, the "Christ candle."

So, considering our Christian, biblical worldview, perhaps the *best* question every one of us could ask during this season of Advent, is "What do I expect of **myself**, in light of the reality of the world around me?" The world is not yet as it should be. That should be no surprise. Nor is that a new thing.

Two thousand years ago, God came into the world in the human flesh. Two thousand years ago, humanity hung God up on a cross with nails and cheered his death. Perhaps there is no better reminder that the world is no worse today than it was then.

Is our duty to curse the world and those around us, or is our duty to be agents of God's transformation in a dark world where light is desperately needed? If our narrative is anything, it should be Christian. When the Christian narrative truly dominates our perspective, indeed, the Kingdom of God is at hand! Therefore, proclaim it with joy and thanksgiving!

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."

- Rev. Ryan Clore

DECEMBER SERMONS

December 2

First Sunday of Advent
"What a Green Leaf Means"
Luke 21:25-36

December 9

Second Sunday of Advent
"Balancing Out"
Luke 3:1-6

December 16

Third Sunday of Advent
An Early American Lesson in Carols
Presented by The Chancel Choir

December 23

Fourth Sunday of Advent
"Involuntary Emotional Response"
Luke 1:39-55

December 24

Christmas Eve Service
"Labor and Delivery"
Luke 2:1-20

December 30

First Sunday After Christmas
"We've Lost Jesus! What Do We Do?"
John 18:33-37

Music in Ministry



The Advent and Christmas seasons are exciting and meaningful seasons of our church year here at First Baptist.

We begin the Advent Season on Sunday, December 2. During the morning worship we will light the first candle (the candle of Hope) in the Advent Wreath. At 6:00 p.m. that

evening we will prepare our sanctuary and hearts for the coming Messiah with our ***Hanging of the Greens*** service. Dress Rehearsal for the *Hanging of the Greens* will take place immediately following the morning worship service. Warm-up times for each choir will be texted to you.

On the third Sunday of Advent, December 16, 11:00 a.m. the Chancel Choir and Youth Choir, Handbell Choir, organ and guest musicians will present ***An Early American Service of Lessons and Carols***. The service includes several familiar carols and others that are all from our early American heritage. Dress rehearsal is set for Wednesday, December 12, 6:45 p.m.

On the evening of December 16, three of our youth handbell ringers have been invited to be guest musicians for the Christmas program at the Clarkton Presbyterian Church. Randy Page is the organist/director. Thank you youth for using your musical talents to reach out to our community and beyond.

And then, on December 24, 5:00 p.m. we will share in our ***Christmas Eve Communion Service***. The service will conclude with the carols *Silent Night, Holy Night* and *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come*. This year marks the 200th anniversary of *Silent Night, Holy Night*.

Silent Night, Holy Night 200th Anniversary

The story of *Stille Nacht* is one of the most endearing and enduring in Christian hymnody. Joseph Mohr (1792-1848) was an Austrian cathedral chorister in Salzburg as a boy. He was ordained into the Catholic priesthood in 1815. He spent most of his life ministering in the parishes near Salzburg. Living a simple life, he died in poverty after giving away what little he had to the poor.

In 1816, Mohr penned the poem that would overtime be sung around the world. He was serving as an assistant priest in Oberndorf in the Austrian Alps. Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863) was an Austrian cantor and school teacher, holding church positions near Salzburg including Oberndorf. While a prolific composer, little was published and none known now save this Christmas carol, composed for a text by his assistant priest Joseph Mohr for the Christmas Eve Mass in Oberndorf in 1818. It was first accompanied on guitar because, as tradition has it, the organ was not in working order. Some stories blame it on rats that had eaten the bellows. This story cannot be verified. We do know, however, that Joseph Mohr had a guitar. Though this was not the normal instrument for the Mass, it was used in this case. Joseph Mohr's guitar is housed at the Hallein's Franz Gruber Museum.

Karl Mauracher, an organ builder, traveled to Arnsdorf in 1821, during which time he obtained a copy of the manuscript. The carol was taken to the Leipsig trade fair in 1831 and was published in 1838. The melodic version that we now sing is somewhat different from Gruber's original, having taken on more of the characteristics of an idyllic folk song of this region.

We will celebrate the 200th anniversary of *Silent Night, Holy Night* accompanied with guitar on Christmas Eve. Plan now to join us for this meaningful service.

Copied : Michael Hawn is University Professor of Church Music, Perkins School of Theology, SMU.



2018-2019 Music Ministry ***At a Glance!***

Music Makers (for ages 4 years old and older)
Day and time tba

Young Musicians & Children's Handchimes
(for grades 1-5)
Wednesday, 5:00 p.m.

The Chancel Choir (for Adults and Youth)
Wednesday, 7:15 p.m.

Youth and Adult Handbells
Sunday, 4:30 p.m.

Youth Choir (for grades 6-12)
Sunday, 5:20 p.m.

You are invited to find a place to use your musical talents this year. Join us for an exciting new year!

DECEMBER MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

2 Grayanna Young
 9 Gina Morningstar
 16 Taylor Jordan
 23 Tricia Sanderson
 29 Sherry Waters

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

2 Joe Hooks / Merle Worley
 9 Chris Blackmon / Barbara Whitson
 16 Coburn Powell / Glenn Waters
 23 Sandra Floyd / Kirby Sanderson
 29 Bobby Hensley / Stephen Bazemore

DVD DISTRIBUTION

2 Peggy Walters
 9 Hilda Butler
 16 Rose Langston
 23 Frances Price
 29 Jolene Lewis

HOSPICE MEAL

21 Janice Young

NURSERY

2 Jennifer Hall / Trish Sanderson / Leah Sanderson / Carly Sanderson
 9 Jim & Erin Warlick / Katherine Scott / Wendy Hensley
 16 Holly Faulk / Lauren Lynn / Jennifer Williamson / Peggy Norosky
 23 Jenny Clore / Dale Duncan / Jennifer Armbrecht / Genie Carter
 29 Mary Alice Stanley / Martha Senter / Jenny Clore

OFFERING TELLERS

Buster & Genie Carter

PEW STOCKER

Myrtle Corbett

SOUND & VIDEO

2 Jason Schoolcraft
 9 Wil Ezzell
 16 Kirby Sanderson
 23 Eric Kronenwetter
 29 Kirby Sanderson

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

2 Clint & Carolyn Grainger
 9 Bill & Jolene Lewis
 16 Rose Langston & J. C. Hyatt
 23 Frances Price & Yvonne Bass
 29 Mitchell Sauls & Bridger Warlick

SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY AT LIBERTY

23 Gleaners Class

USHERS (CHAIRMAN: CHARLIE DUNCAN)

2 Buster Carter / Glenn Waters / David Heath / Grayson Ward / J. C. Hyatt
 9 Bill Floyd / David Carter / Mitchell Sauls / Clint Grainger / Johnny Britt
 18 Travis Harrison / John Sauls / Mel Ray / Kenwood Royal / Chris Blackmon
 25 Harry Ward / David Tedder / Haywood Corbett / Kevin Williamson
 29 Kyle Cook

WORSHIP SERVICE GREETER

Peggy FormyDuval



Our Financial Stewardship

Worship Attendance Average:
 Sunday School Attendance Average:

November 4, 2018- Attend 148 YTD			
Budget Rec'd	\$11,038.00	Budget Needs to Date	\$36,433.75
Budget Needed	\$7,286.75	Budget Received YTD	\$33,662.04
Over	\$3,751.25	Budget Under YTD	\$2,771.71

November 11, 2018- Attend 102 YTD			
Budget Rec'd	\$5,707.00	Budget Needs to Date	\$43,720.50
Budget Needed	\$7,286.75	Budget Received YTD	\$39,369.04
Under	\$1,579.75	Budget Under YTD	\$4,351.46

November 18, 2018- Attend 96 YTD			
Budget Rec'd	\$6,347.00	Budget Needs to Date	\$51,007.25
Budget Needed	\$7,286.75	Budget Received YTD	\$45,716.04
Under	\$939.75	Budget Under YTD	\$5,291.21

November 25, 2018- Attend 96 YTD			
Budget Rec'd	\$4,454.00	Budget Needs to Date	\$58,294.00
Budget Needed	\$7,286.75	Budget Received YTD	\$500,170.04
Under	\$2,832.75	Budget Under YTD	\$8,123.96

Harvest Day Offering
 Goal - \$3,850 - Received - \$2,620.00

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 2 Legrande Thompson | 21 Lauren Lynn |
| Vann Underwood | 24 Peggy Walters |
| Katherine Scott | 28 Sandra Floyd |
| 3 Jeannine Sellers | Natalie Royal |
| 5 Glenn Ray | 29 Myrtle Corbett |
| 8 Frances Price | Charles Austin |
| Phillip McCulloch | Jennifer Bowling |
| 12 Joe Hooks | Katherine C. Lee |
| Laurie Batten | 31 David Boege |
| 13 Roger Chestnutt | |
| 16 Anna Elkins | |
| 17 Don Peacock | |
| Sally Grace Cook | |



FBC SPOTLIGHT

This month's Spotlight highlights 54 years of The Contact.

Does this bring back any memories? This was our first issue of the newsletter. Next month will be 54 years of the Contact. It contained WNS menu and an activities list for the week along with a "Letter from the Pastor." Do you remember who the pastor was in 1965? There was also a note from the WMU president. Do you know who that was? And check out those supper prices!

In June of 2016 we went from once a week, four page, black and white layout to a once a month, 8 page, color cover layout. In 1965 It cost one penny to mail 8 copies. Unbelievable! The cost today varies from thirty cents to forty-seven cents depending on delivery location. Times sure have changed! You can see the property has changed from the picture on the original cover as well.

If you have an announcement you would like to add to the monthly newsletter, you can e-mail or call that in to the church office.



CONTACT

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
504 North Madison Street
WHITEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

January 4, 1965

F A M I L Y N I G H T P R O G R A M

Wednesday, January 6

6:30 - EATING (The menu will be pork chops, black eyed peas, candied yams and desert. Adults 50¢, children 35¢)

7:30 - W.M.U., Brotherhood, R.A., G.A., Sunbeams

8:30 - Adult Choir Practice

Reservations must be made not later than Tuesday, 3:00 P.M.

The pastor was Dr. Francis S. Chesson and WMU President was Mrs. A. G. Carter, Jr.

Join us on Wednesdays for Supper (5:45 p.m.), Prayer Meeting (6:30-6:45 p.m.), Godly Play (6:30 - 7:30p.m.), & Bible Study (6:45-7:15) p.m. Nursery is available after supper.

Wednesday Night Supper



December 5

Brenda Carter - C
Genie Carter - C
Kirby & Trish Sanderson
Tina Sauls

Nursery

Mary Alice Stanley
Kathrine Scott

December 12

Mary Alice Stanley - C
Haywood & Myrtle Corbett
Myrtle Sellers
Stephen & Heather Bazemore
David Heath
John & Janet Plasky

Nursery

Tricia Sanderson
Leah Sanderson
Carly Sanderson

December 19

No Wednesday Night
Activities

December 26

No Wednesday Night
Activities

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WMU



Missions Emphasis: Global Missions Offering – Goal \$4,000.00
Lottie Moon Offering – Goal \$1,500.00

The WMU will partner with the Missions Committee in celebrating **Missions Sunday on December 2** in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast will be served at **9:00 A.M.** followed by an inspirational presentation by Amy Sessions who has just returned from a Medical Mission trip to Africa. We look forward to good attendance and a wonderful time of fellowship and worship as we begin the Christmas season.

Watchword: *“My dear friends, stand firm and don’t be shaken. Always keep busy working for the Lord. You know that everything you do for him is worthwhile”. 1 Cor. 15:58*

Our Mission

... is to inform and inspire Christians to influence their world for Christ.

Myrtle Corbett
WMU Director

MISSIONS BREAKFAST AND MISSIONS OFFERINGS

Remember, Missions Breakfast will take the place of Sunday School for youth and adult classes. The offerings for Global Missions and Lottie Moon will be collected during the month of December.

MAKE A RESERVATION

On **Wednesday evening, December 12**, we will have special guests for supper. Several members of the Crusoe community that have been touched by our disaster recovery work will join us. We will have a video of the area. Please call the office and make reservations for dinner that evening.

A SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks to Merle Worley, Clint & Carolyn Grainger, Haywood & Myrtle Corbett, and the Missions Committee for providing food for the team of teenagers with Praying Pelicans who stayed with us. They made a real impression on the people they helped in Crusoe and were very thankful for the hospitality of First Baptist Church.

HEADS UP - OFFICE CLOSED

On **Tuesday, January 1, 2019**, the church office will be closed for New Year’s Day! We will reopen on **Wednesday, January 2, 2019**. Happy New Year!

LOOKING AHEAD

Music in the Community - For one Night only, Monday, December 17 at 7:30 p.m., The Southeastern Oratorio Society and conductor Tim Koch present "The Messiah" by G.F. Handel. The Concert will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 511 N. Thompson Street, Whiteville, NC and admission is free (donations are gratefully accepted).

THE IMPORTANCE OF ONE

"Xvxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxxcpt for onx of thxy kxys. I havx wishxd many timxs that it workxd pxrxfctly. Thxrx arx 46 kxys that function wxll xnough, but just onx not working makxs thx diffxrxncx. Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx that an organization is somxwhat likx my typxwritxr; not all thx pxoplx arx working propxrlly. You may say to yoursxlf, "I am only onx pxrson, I don't makx or brxak a program," but it doxs makx a diffxrxncx bxcausx an association to bx xffctivx nxxds thx participation of vxxy pxrson rlatxd to it.

So thx ntxt timx you think you arx only onx pxrson and that your xfforts arx not nxxdxd, rxmxxbxx and say to yoursxlf, "I am a kxy pxrson in our organization and am vxxy much nxxdxd."

—copixd

THANK YOU

First Baptist Church family,

From my family and my neighbors who came with us from Wake Forest, thank you so much. The luncheon provided by your Grief Committee and the hosting was so appreciated by all of us.

There is nothing like church food in a friendly fellowship hall to bring back good memories and to remind us of how important being with our extended family in Christ is. Thank you for making us feel so welcomed and at home!

Catherine Johnson
The Family of Mary Lu Bunn

Dear First Baptist Church,

I want to give special thanks to Pastor Clore for his inspiring message at her (Barbara McKeel Long) service.

A big thank you to the Grief Committee who prepared and served the delicious lunch for our family.

God bless your ministry as you reach out in the time of need.

Ann McKeel Wood
The Family of Barbara McKeel Long

RADIO BROADCAST

Remember, if for some reason you cannot make it to the Sunday morning worship service, you have three ways you can listen to the live worship broadcast every Sunday morning: radio station FM 103.9, radio station AM 1540, and online at www.wtxy1540.com (Scroll to the "Church Services" box and select the "Click to Listen Live" link).



December 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Missions Breakfast 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 12:00 Dress Rehearsal—All Participants 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells Warm Up 5:20 Children's Choirs Warm Up 5:40 Chancel Choir Warm Up 6:00 <i>Hanging of the Greens</i> 7:00 Reception in the Fellowship Hall		4	5 5:00 Young Musicians (Grades 1-5) 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting, Bible Study, Godly Play Children's Program 7:15 Chancel Choir	6 3:00 - 5:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	7 12:00 Gleaners SS Class Luncheon	8
9 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:20 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	10 10:00 Staff Meeting	11	12 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:45 Chancel Choir Dress Rehearsal—Sanctuary 6:30 Prayer Meeting, Bible Study, Godly Play Children's Program	13 3:00 - 5:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	14	15
16 Chancel Choir Christmas Program 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:20 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	17 9:30 Finance Mtg 10:00 Staff Meeting	18	19 No Wednesday Activities	20 3:00 - 5:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	21 12:00 Hospice Meals Served	22
23 9:45 Sunday School Gleaners SS Class At Liberty 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:20 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	24 Christmas Eve Communion <i>Office Closed</i>	25 <i>Office Closed</i>	26 No Wednesday Activities	27	28	29
30 Parent Child Dedication 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:20 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	31 10:00 Staff Meeting	January 1, 2019 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>New Year's Day</i>				

FBC contact Information: Phone - 910-642-2139, Email - office@fbcwhiteville.com ,Web - www.fbcwhiteville.com

Sunday Morning Worship Live on FM 103.9, AM 1540, and www.wtxy1540.com (Scroll to the "Church Services," "Click to Listen Live" link)

First Baptist Church
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Whiteville, NC 28472-3298

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