



First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2021, VOLUME 56, NUMBER 1

Happy
New
Year!

Welcome,
2021!

Events At A Glance

January 1, Office Closed for New Year's Day

January 3 & 17, Sunday School in the fellowship hall,
10:00 a.m., Teachers—1/3 - Dr. Wayne Brown,
1/17 - Rev. Wallyce Todd.

January 10, Baptist Men's Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.

January 11, WMU Meeting in the fellowship hall,
10:00 a.m.

January 13, Prayer Meeting in the fellowship hall,
6:30 p.m.

January 18, Finance Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

January 19, Deacons Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

January 20, Drive-Through Meal, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

January 27, Quarterly Church Conference in the
sanctuary, 6:30 p.m.

Complete monthly calendar on back.

To add an event to our calendar,
please contact the church office:

(910) 642-2139



YOU ARE INVITED TO

Sunday School

When: January 3rd and January 17th
Where: FBC Fellowship Hall
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Baptist Men's Breakfast

Sunday, January 10, 2021, 8:00 AM

PASTOR'S CORNER



On behalf of Joy and myself, I want to express a very special and heart-felt **THANK YOU** to **ALL** of you for your love . . . gifts . . . poinsettias . . . tasty goodies . . . Christmas cards . . . and kind greetings during this blessed and holy season of Christmas. We love you and we thank God for the privilege of serving Him with you here at First Baptist Church in Whiteville.

I also **THANK** everyone who helped in any way to make the sanctuary so exquisitely beautiful with **ALL** of the decorations. We all are truly grateful and we appreciate the beauty . . . and we also **THANK** each and every musician for the beautiful and worshipful music throughout this holy season.

As we celebrated the Lord's Supper together on New Year's Eve, I am reminded of something God inspired me to write sometime ago. As we shared the bread and the cup together, we celebrated that God has provided for everyone in the world the **GIFT of SALVATION** through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ--the promised Messiah--Whose birth we proclaimed during our Sunday School lessons and our worship services together in December. I want to share the following original writing with you as a reminder to all of us—including myself—that it is **NOT** our good works, or our own righteousness, but it is **ONLY** through Jesus Christ—**GOD'S PERFECT SON ALONE**—that we can be made right in our relationship with a Holy God and that we can have access to Him! The **CROSS** of Jesus is our **BRIDGE** between each one of us and our **HOLY GOD**! Please take a moment to read . . . pause . . . and reflect on the following:

My righteousness? No!
My good works? No!
My deeds of kindness shown? No!
What then, for my sin can atone?
His righteousness.
His work on the cross.
His amazing grace alone.
Not my thoughts, words, or deeds can my sin-price pay!
Only Christ's blood that was shed can take my sin away.
So . . . I believe—and I accept—the gift offered freely
in God's Holy Word:
That He Who gave His life for ALL . . . is Jesus Christ, the Lord!

As we begin the **NEW YEAR** of 2021 filled with **HOPES . . . DREAMS . . . PROMISES . . . POSSIBILITIES . . . ASPIRATIONS . . .** and **PRAYERS** for **PEACE . . . HAPPINESS . . . HEALING . . . GOODWILL . . .** and **GOD'S WILL** in our lives, may we each honestly try individually—and corporately—to do our part(s) to help First Baptist Church to become **EVERYTHING** God **knows** we **can become** as the **Bride of Christ**! As we pray for God to lead and guide us into the New Year, I want to challenge **Y-O-U** to "take up **YOUR** cross" personally and to follow God in obedience!

I often have heard and I have quoted: "*We are to do **our** very best . . . and to **God** leave the rest!*" We should try to follow the words of Saint Augustine when he wrote, "*Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you!*" That means that we—in order to be the **CHURCH** God wants us to be—should allow His Holy Spirit to guide us each and everyday—trying to do as the song says: "*Day by day, O dear Lord, three things I pray: to see Thee more clearly . . . to love Thee more dearly . . . and to follow Thee more nearly . . . day by day!*"

Eddie and I have prayed, discussed, and have felt God leading us to use the month of January to focus on the theme of **PRAYER** with our emphasis on **THE LORD'S PRAYER** during the first month of this new year! Our concentration for January will be in the same words used by the disciples when they requested of Jesus, as in Luke 11:1, "*Lord, teach us to pray!*" Eddie and I hope—and pray—that our emphasis in worship will be a helpful way to begin the **NEW YEAR of 2021**—praying for God to help all of us in the Body of Jesus Christ known as First Baptist Church of Whiteville!

We will strive to help answer these questions as to the purpose and mission of **our** church—**HIS CHURCH**:
Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

Will **YOU** please join us on this journey as we walk in faith . . . hope . . . and love together into a **NEW YEAR**? As always, please feel free to call us at **ANYTIME** if we can **ever** be of help to you in **ANYWAY**, ok?!? My cell phone number = **843.796.0397** and the phone number for the church office = **910.642.2139**.

cont'd on page 3

MUSIC NOTES



The descriptive word “unique” is used in the following to describe 2020 as a most unusual year. Almost everything we have done this year as a church has been unique, based on the circumstances we were presented with. Our worship has been different and unique and challenging. Who would of thought that we would need to wear masks and distance ourselves

as we worship together? Our Sunday School and other ministries have been carried out and presented in “out of the ordinary” ways. And yet, we are still the church and will continue to be so for years to come. “And I tell you...on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.” Matthew 16:18

We are so very thankful to the Chancel Choir and Youth musicians (vocal and instrumental) for making our Advent and

Christmas seasons uniquely inspirational. *How Far Is It to Bethlehem?* was a true blessing. Thank you for your diligence in adjusting your schedules to meet our needs almost weekly. It was evident in your musical offerings. Thank you, Trish Sanderson, for being our narrator, as well as Eric Kronenwetter and Kirby Sanderson for their help with video and audio.

We will begin this new year much as we ended last year. Our music groups will continue to meet and prepare music for worship. The rehearsal schedules might be different from week to week, however, we will still meet!

As we begin this new year let us join each other in prayer. Let us seek God’s wisdom and providence for what lies ahead. And to the Lord, may all the glory be given.

Happy New Year!

Eddie

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, DRIVE-THROUGH SUPPER, 5:30-6:30 P.M.

January Drive-through meal on **Wednesday, January 20**, will be prepared by Cooking Team 3, chaired by Myrtle and Haywood Corbett and Cooking Team 4, chaired by Brenda Carter and Genie Carter. The plate will include Spaghetti, Salad, and Bread. There is no charge for the meal. Drive through the parking lot, around the office building, and then through the breezeway between the two buildings. If you would like to bring your tithes and offerings, we will take those into the church for you. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there.

January 3, 2020

The Epiphany of the Lord
“Let It Go!”

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; Philippians 3:7-16

January 10, 2020

The First Sunday after the Epiphany
“Lord, Teach Us to Pray!”
Matthew 6:1-15; Luke 11:1-4

January 17, 2020

The Second Sunday After the Epiphany
“PRAYER: the Simple Act of ASK-ing!”
Matthew 7:7-12; Luke 11:1-13

January 24, 2020

The Third Sunday After the Epiphany
“Building a Tower of Prayer: ACTS!”
Isaiah 6:1-8; I John 1:5-10;
Psalm 100:1-5; Psalm 28:2; Daniel 9:3-8

January 31, 2020

The Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany
“Believing . . . Praying . . . Doing!”
James 1:1-27



(cont’d from page 2)

May God bless you today . . . forever . . . and always—in **ALL** ways—as we begin the **NEW YEAR**, trusting God fully . . . in whatever **2021** may bring! Let us never forget, *He’s got the whole world—including each of us—in His hands!* And . . . aren’t we **BLESSED** and **THANKFUL**?!?

“HAPPY (BLESSED) NEW YEAR!” “HAPPY (BLESSED) FOREVER!”

My wife, Joy, and all of our family join me . . . gratefully and prayerfully . . . in Jesus’ Name . . . and in His amazing love . . . grace . . . and mercy . . .

Wayne Brown

JANUARY MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

3 Genie Carter / Peggy Underwood
10 David Carter / Charlie Duncan
17 Joe Hooks / Mary Alice Stanley
24 Chris Blackmon / Ron Walters
31 Coburn Powell / Brad Johnson

HOSPICE SNACKS

Martha Senter

SOUND & VIDEO

3 Mitchell Sauls
10 Bryce Kronenwetter
17 Kirby Sanderson
24 Eric Kronenwetter
31 Mitchell Sauls

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

3 Clint and Carolyn Grainger
17 Rose Langston / J. C. Hyatt

SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY AT LIBERTY

Visitors not allowed inside the facility

USHERS (Chairman: Joe Hooks)

3 Buster Carter / Glenn Waters /
David Heath / Clint Grainger /
J. C. Hyatt
10 Bill Floyd / David Carter / Mitchell
Sauls / Willis Pinnell / Johnny Britt
17 Travis Harrison / John Sauls /
Mel Ray / Kenwood Royal /
Chris Blackmon
24 Harry Ward / David Tedder /
Haywood Corbett / Kevin
Williamson / Kyle Cook
31 TBA



*"God has given each of you a gift
from his great variety of spiritual
gifts. Use them well to serve one
another."*

I Peter 4:10 NLT

STEWARDSHIP

December 6, 2020

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$0.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$1,895.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$150.00
Total Budget This Week	\$2,045.00

Designated/Other Funds	\$520.00
Total Collections This Week	\$2,565.00

Under Budget This Week	\$4,389.02
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Budget Need to date	\$64,340.20
Budget Rec'd to date	\$53,350.50
Under Budget to date	\$10,989.70

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**December 13, 2020**

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Budget Gifts Plan 1           | \$410.00          |
| Budget Gifts Plan 2           | \$6,294.00        |
| Budget Gifts Operational      | \$875.00          |
| <b>Total Budget This Week</b> | <b>\$7,579.00</b> |

|                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Designated/Other Funds             | \$1,301.25        |
| <b>Total Collections This Week</b> | <b>\$8,880.25</b> |

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Over Budget This Week</b> | <b>\$1,144.98</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------|

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Budget Need to date  | \$70,774.22 |
| Budget Rec'd to date | \$60,929.50 |
| Under Budget to date | \$9,844.72  |

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December 20, 2020

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$500.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$4,835.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$4,488.25
Total Budget This Week	\$9,823.25

Designated/Other Funds	\$360.00
Total Collections This Week	\$10,183.25

Over Budget This Week	\$3,389.23
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Budget Need to date	\$77,208.24
Budget Rec'd to date	\$70,752.75
Under Budget to date	\$6,455.49

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**December 27, 2020**

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Budget Gifts Plan 1           | \$3,500.00         |
| Budget Gifts Plan 2           | \$5,480.00         |
| Budget Gifts Operational      | \$4,675.00         |
| <b>Total Budget This Week</b> | <b>\$13,655.00</b> |

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Designated/Other Funds             | \$585.00           |
| <b>Total Collections This Week</b> | <b>\$14,240.00</b> |

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Over Budget This Week</b> | <b>\$7,220.98</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------|

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Budget Need to date  | \$83,642.26 |
| Budget Rec'd to date | \$84,407.75 |
| Over Budget to date  | \$765.49    |

### Special Offerings

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Global Missions (goal \$4,500) | \$995.00   |
| Lottie Moon                    | \$1,455.90 |

# YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

# JANUARY



|    |                 |
|----|-----------------|
| 1  | Dale Duncan     |
|    | Al Williams     |
| 18 | Martha Senter   |
| 19 | Jerry Sellers   |
| 20 | Kimberly Worley |
| 21 | Sarah High      |
| 22 | Jo Anne Vereen  |
| 25 | David Tedder    |
| 27 | Kirby Sanderson |

## CONTACT INFO

### Ministerial Staff

Dr. Wayne Brown, Interim Pastor  
843-796-0397, [interimpastor@fbcwhiteville.com](mailto:interimpastor@fbcwhiteville.com)  
Rev. Eddie Fort, Minister of Music  
[\[efort@fbcwhiteville.com\]](mailto:efort@fbcwhiteville.com)

### Ministry Assistant Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass,  
Ministry Assistant  
[\[office@fbcwhiteville.com\]](mailto:office@fbcwhiteville.com)  
Mrs. Dinah Reaves,  
Financial Ministry Assistant  
[\[fbcwhite@fbcwhiteville.com\]](mailto:fbcwhite@fbcwhiteville.com)  
Mrs. Patricia Slomanski, Interim Organist

## OFFICE HOURS

Church Office Hours 8:30 A.M. — 4:30 P.M.,  
Monday—Friday  
Phone: 910-642-2139 Fax: 910-642-5874

# THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS

As part of the meditation for our Candlelight Communion Service on Christmas Eve, I shared a poem, *The Shadow of the Cross*, written by my wife, Joy, in 1993. Its message is still true—27 years later—and will be forever! The manger of Bethlehem cradled the baby Who would become the Christ of Calvary, Who died on the cross for the sins of the world. As we begin a New Year, may we remember Jesus Christ IS the Son of God . . . the Savior of the world . . . the King of kings and the Lord of lords . . . and He loves all of humanity—everyone—everywhere! He wants to bless us so we also can be a blessing to others! I hope and pray Joy's poem will bless you, too! I am thankful for Joy's writing skills—and for the privilege of sharing her writing with you in Jesus' Name . . . and in His love . . . mercy . . . and grace!

*Wayne Brown*

## *The Shadow of the Cross*

*The shadow of the cross was upon the manger there,  
As Mary held her baby close, and wonder filled the air.  
A night of joy, a night of peace, now gone were all her fears;  
But did she know, as she held Him close, her joys would turn to tears?*

*Shepherds gazing, angels singing, gold, frankincense and myrrh;  
All of these must have been very strange to her.  
How could she know as she pondered them and kept them in her heart,  
That each one would, at the end of His life, come to play a part?*

*Shepherds watching over sheep – He would be God's own Lamb.  
Costly gifts of burial spices accompanied Him to His tomb.  
Angels singing, "He's not here, He's risen from the dead!"  
Could she have known that all of these were as the prophets said?*

*Gentle Mary meek and mild – Chosen for joy and for sorrow.  
Enjoy tonight – hold memories tight – don't worry about tomorrow.  
Just hold your Baby close to you; tonight you gave birth to the Christ.  
But the shadow of the cross is there, and will be all His life.*

Joy Brown  
Christmas, 1993  
"Thank You, Jesus!"

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed on **Friday, January 1**, for **New Year's Day**. Happy New Year!



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

We invite you to join us on **January 3rd** and **17th** for Sunday School in the fellowship hall at **10:00 a.m.** with **Dr. Wayne Brown** as our teacher on the **3rd** and **Rev. Wallyce Todd** on the **17th**. In **February**, Sunday School will be held on the **7th** and the **21st** with **Mrs. Myrtle Corbett** teaching both classes. We look forward to seeing you there.

## BAPTIST MEN'S BREAKFAST

Please join us **Sunday, January 10**, at **8:00 a.m.** for Baptist Men's Breakfast. All men of the church are invited to fellowship together over breakfast. Don't forget your mask and social distancing.

## WMU

**January Meeting:** January 11, 10:00 A.M.

**Call to Prayer and Program:** Martha Senter

**Missions Emphasis:** Soup Ministry

**Hospice Snacks:** Martha Senter



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!** On January 1, 2020, we had high hopes for the New Year. Little did we know how greatly the storm that was heading our way would alter our way of living! We begin 2021 with hopes and prayers for an end to COVID-19 early this year.

The January WMU mission project is the annual Soup Ministry. We will meet at the regular time on Monday, January 11 to prepare the soup and sandwiches and deliver them to our church family shut-ins and to the residents of Madison Hill Apartments. As always, this mission is open to all church members and we welcome any help.

We are still collecting funds for Global Missions and Lottie Moon offerings. The amount given to date is \$995.00 for Global Missions (goal \$4,500) and \$1,455.90 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Please continue to give to these important ministries.

**2020-21 Watchword:** "But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved." Hebrews 10:39

### Our Mission

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

Myrtle Corbett  
WMU Director

## QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE

**January 27** is our next quarterly church conference. We won't have a meal like we have had in the past, we will meet in the **sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.** instead of the fellowship hall, and if committee chairs have committee **reports** to turn in for their committees, please have those in by **Thursday, January 21**. Thank you.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DEACONS MEETING TIME CHANGE

Please note that Monthly Deacons Meeting time has changed from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., starting this month with the meeting on **Tuesday, January 19, 2021.**

Schedule  
Time Change



## THANK YOU

The Cole and Nixon Families would like to thank everyone who sent cards, prepared food and visited with us during Susan's battle with ALS. Your continued prayers are greatly appreciated. We will miss her but find comfort in knowing that she is at peace and resting in God's loving arms.

George Nixon and Mike and Lauren Cole



Thanks to the Gleaners Sunday School Class for their mission project for December, which included Harvest Table and Community CPR—your efforts fed lots of families.

## FBC STAFF NOTE

The FBC Staff would like to say how much we appreciate your thinking of us during the Christmas holidays with all your gifts, cards, and visits. Your kindness means so much!



*"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"*

*II Corinthians 9:10-15 NRSV*

*"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."*

*Psalms 1:1-3*

|                                                                                                                              | January 2021                                     |                            |                                                                                                   |     |                                              |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| Sun                                                                                                                          | Mon                                              | Tue                        | Wed                                                                                               | Thu | Fri                                          | Sat |
|                                                                                                                              |                                                  |                            |                                                                                                   |     | 1<br>New Year's<br>Day -<br>Office<br>Closed | 2   |
| 3<br>10:00 Combined Sunday School<br>in the fellowship hall<br>11:00 Morning Worship (masks<br>and social distancing req'd)  | 4<br>1:30 Staff Mtg                              | 5                          | 6<br>11:00 Chancel Choir                                                                          | 7   | 8                                            | 8   |
| 10<br>Baptist Men's<br>Breakfast, 8 a.m.<br>11:00 Morning Worship (masks<br>and social distancing req'd)                     | 11<br>10:00 WMU Meeting<br>1:30 Staff Meeting    | 12                         | 13<br>11:00 Chancel Choir<br>6:30 Prayer Meeting                                                  | 14  | 15                                           | 16  |
| 17<br>10:00 Combined Sunday School<br>in the fellowship hall<br>11:00 Morning Worship (masks<br>and social distancing req'd) | 18<br>9:30 Finance Meeting<br>1:30 Staff Meeting | 19<br>6:30 Deacons Meeting | 20<br>11:00 Chancel Choir<br>5:30-6:30 Drive through<br>Supper—Prepared by<br>Cooking Teams 3 & 4 | 21  | 22                                           | 23  |
| 24<br>11:00 Morning Worship (masks<br>and social distancing req'd)                                                           | 25<br>1:30 Staff Meeting                         | 26                         | 27<br>11:00 Chancel Choir<br>6:30 Quarterly Church<br>Conference in the<br>sanctuary              | 28  | 29                                           | 30  |
| 31<br>11:00 Morning Worship (masks<br>and social distancing req'd)                                                           |                                                  |                            |                                                                                                   |     |                                              |     |

FBC contact information: Phone - 910-642-2139, Email - [office@fbcwhiteville.com](mailto:office@fbcwhiteville.com), Web - [www.fbcwhiteville.com](http://www.fbcwhiteville.com)  
 Sunday Morning Worship Live on WTXY AM 1540, FM 103.9, [kool1039radio.com](http://kool1039radio.com)—"Listen Live",  
 and First Baptist Church Whiteville Facebook page

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