



First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2024, VOLUME 59, NUMBER 1



Reaching Out to Our Neighbors Open Forum,
Tuesday, January 9, 6:30 p.m. Details on page 6.



Please join us
for Movie Night
for the whole
family,
January 19,
6:30 p.m.

Events At A Glance

- January 1- Office closed for New Year's Day
- January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.
- January 8, 15, 22, 29 - Bible Study coordinated by Willis & Sue Pinnell and Robert & Kris Clyburn, 6:30 p.m.
- January 9 - "Reaching Out to Our Neighbors" Open Forum, 6:30 p.m.
- January 14 - Baptist Men's Breakfast, 8:00 a.m., Church Council Meeting, 3:00 p.m.
- January 15 - Finance Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- January 16 - Deacons' Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- January 19 - Movie Night, 6:30 p.m.
- January 24 - Covered-dish Meal, 5:45 p.m., Quarterly Church Conference, 6:30 p.m.

Complete monthly calendar on back.
To add an event to our calendar,
please contact the church office:
(910) 642-2139



PASTOR'S CORNER



“Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep His promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near.” **Hebrews 10: 23-25**

HAPPY 2024!! I don't know about you, but how comforting it is to know that God has promised to always work alongside us? I just love that verse from **John 5:17-18**. “My Father is always at work to this day, and I too, am working!” Our God never stops. And until His righteous return - neither do we! Truth is, I am one who has forever seen great merit in the “buddy system.” You know what this is. It's when we partner with a fellow cohort(s) in which to accomplish a task. “Two heads are better than one.” With Jesus in charge, He allows for the convergence of multiple ideas in order to best get the job done. With our much devoted deacon body, as well as a team of very talented committee members - with God leading the way I can only see exciting things at the forefront for First Baptist Whiteville in the coming year.

As I type these words, a card was just placed on my desk. Please let me share some of it with you: “Dr. Hillman, I want to thank you and your congregation for continuing your Christmas tradition of your live nativity scene! Our family found it very inspiring, and helped us focus on the real meaning of Christmas.” Needless to say, this heartfelt card brought tears to my eyes as I know this gentleman and his family were touched by all of the hard work that First Baptist put on to make this important Christmas production such a success in our community. A job well done! **TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

In 2023 we were blessed by welcoming the addition of some vibrant new members into God's fold. And with the new year, comes the excitement of exploring fresh ways of reaching out to God's people all around. As I recently mentioned in a past deacons meeting, words like harmony, open-hearted, transparency, and spri-de-corp, are in my opinion what will serve to make First Baptist Whiteville an irresistible place to worship God - **ONCE AGAIN!**

Moving forward, God's blessings to you all! In 2024 let us prepare for **BIG THINGS to come. JESUS LOVES YOU AND SO DO I!**

Pastor Chris

THANK YOU

Dear First Baptist Church Family,

Just a note to say, “Thank you” for your help and donation to me. I appreciate so much. It went to a good cause towards saving my house.

Thank you all so very much. May God bless you all.

Linda Pinyan



“God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.”

Matthew 5:7 NLT

THANK YOU

Dear First Baptist church,

We are so grateful for the visits, calls, prayers, and meals shared with our family during Edgar's illness and death. Your gestures of kindness and care have certainly comforted us in recent days.

With sincere appreciation,
Diane Tison, Wendy, Scarlet, Alex and family



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Please Note: We appreciate everyone who participates in preparing the meals, as well as those who come to enjoy them. We hope to be able to continue to provide the fellowship meal at least once a month. This month we are having a covered-dish meal for Quarterly Church Conference. We hope you will join us!

January 24, 2024

Group 5

Mary Alice Stanley, Chair

Conference Set up for
Covered-Dish

February 28, 2024

WMU

**Meal and Program—
Heck-Jones Offering
Emphasis,
Guest Speaker**

April 24, 2024

Group 7

Peggy Norosky, Chair

Conference Set up for
Covered-dish

March 20, 2024

Group 6

**Fred & Martha Senter,
Co-chairs**

May 15, 2024

Group 3

**Myrtle & Haywood Corbett,
Co-chairs**

JANUARY MESSAGES

January 7, 2024

Our God Is Able

Ephesians 3:20-21

January 14, 2024

We Can Because He Says We Can

Colossians 3:10

January 21, 2024

A Transforming Grace

2 Corinthians 1:21

January 28, 2024

Keep on Doing Good

2 Thessalonians 3:13

WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICES

January 3, 2024

Setting Right Priorities

Psalm 90

January 10, 2024

Time Flies By

Psalm 90

January 17, 2024

Holding On For Dear Life

Psalm 91

January 24, 2024

A Divine Mystery

Psalm 93 & 94

January 31, 2024

The True Owner

JANUARY MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 7 Tina Sauls
- 14 Jan Hinson
- 21 Tricia Sanderson
- 28 Beverly Pope

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

- 7 Kate C. Lee / Kirby Sanderson
- 14 Sandi Floyd / Mel Ray
- 21 Brownie Cook / Betty Jo Prevatte
- 28 Merle Worley / Hilda Ray

HOSPICE MEALS

Martha Senter

SOUND & VIDEO

- 7 Kirby Sanderson
- 14 Eric Kronenwetter
- 12 Kirby Sanderson
- 28 Eric Kronenwetter

STEWARDSHIP

December 3, 2023

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$300.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$2,568.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$1,550.00
Total Budget This Week	\$4,418.00
Designated/Other Funds	\$2,751.16
Total Collections This Week	\$7,169.16
Under Budget This Week	\$986.95
Budget Need to date	\$54,049.50
Budget Rec'd to date	\$53,257.00
Under Budget to date	\$792.50

December 10, 2023

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$295.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$6,035.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$320.00
Total Budget This Week	\$6,650.00
Designated/Other Funds	\$549.62
Total Collections This Week	\$7,199.62
Over Budget This Week	\$1,245.05
Budget Need to date	\$59,454.45
Budget Rec'd to date	\$59,907.00
Under Budget to date	\$452.55

December 17, 2023

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$0.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$5,339.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$140.00
Total Budget This Week	\$5,479.00
Designated/Other Funds	\$1,193.00
Total Collections This Week	\$6,672.00
Over Budget This Week	\$74.05
Budget Need to date	\$43,239.60
Budget Rec'd to date	\$41,774.00
Under Budget to date	\$1,465.60

December 24, 2023

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$370.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$3,163.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$1,450.00
Total Budget This Week	\$4,983.00
Designated/Other Funds	\$1,081.23
Total Collections This Week	\$6,064.23
Under Budget This Week	\$421.95
Budget Need to date	\$70,264.35
Budget Rec'd to date	\$66,570.00
Under Budget to date	\$3,694.35

**December 31, 2023 will appear in the
February Newsletter**



- 1 Dale Duncan
- 18 Martha Senter
- 20 Kimberly Worley
- 22 Jo Anne Vereen
- 25 David Tedder
- 27 Kirby Sanderson
- 29 Charlie Priest

DECEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

December 3, 2023 - 53
 December 10, 2023 - 35
 December 17, 2023 - 38
 December 24, 2023 - 36
 December 31, 2023 - TBA

Average attendance for December
 Sunday School is 41.

Please join us each week for Sunday
 School at 9:45 a.m.



OFFICE CONTACT INFO

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Christopher Hillman, Pastor
 pastorhillman@fbcwhiteville.com
 804-301-2580

Dr. Patricia Slomanski, Organist

Ministry Assistant Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant
 [office@fbcwhiteville.com]

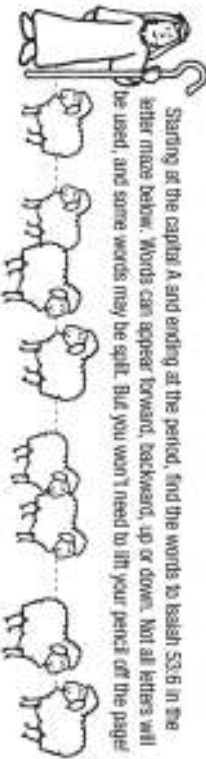
Mrs. Dinah Reaves,
 Financial Ministry Assistant
 [fbcwhite@fbcwhiteville.com]

OFFICE HOURS

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

Puzzle!

Allwelkeshelievewraywecommandsotherighteoussof
 gospehtohevealtartestimonysnalordtheiniquity
 righthasisepraisedwiffoaputownwayaposahumcornersto
 heavenourisagoneadogivscaruotgercorraidoirasonsus
 returncaphaventrustedeallturnmedrespossesthruths.Ila



Starting at the capital A and ending at the period, find the words to beseth S.O.B. in the
 letter maze below. Words can appear forward, backward, up or down. Not all letters will
 be used, and some words may be split. But you won't need to lift your pencil off the page!

Answer: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to
 our own way; and the Lord has had on him the iniquity of us all.
 Isaiah 53:6, NRSV

LIVE NATIVITY



Pictured here are many of the actors it takes to make Live Nativity a success. Thank you all for your help with this event. *Not pictured here* is a faithful group of people that worked behind the scenes to order animals, order and move bleachers, advertise, assemble and decorate scenery, have snacks for everyone, choose and press costumes, organize and rehearse with actors, operate sound and lights, and clean up after it was all over. We thank you so much for taking the time to serve and spread the true meaning of the Christmas story for our community to see. Some folks around us may not realize that Christ took on human flesh and came as an infant to free us from our sin. He loved us so much that He did this for us. Thank you for sharing!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WMU

WMU Meeting: Monday, January 15, 10:00 A.M.
Call to Prayer and Program: Martha Senter
Mission Project: Soup Ministry
Hospice Meal: Martha Senter (Contact Karen: 910-642-9051)



Happy New Year! The Christmas Season brought us much joy as we worshipped and fellowshiped together through beautiful music, wonderful worship services, and many opportunities to share God's love.

A new year is now beginning! The WMU will begin with the annual Soup Ministry to Madison Hill residents, FBC homebound members, and others in the community who benefit from and enjoy the gift of a warm meal.

We have been collecting for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (Goal \$1,000) and Global Missions (Goal \$6,000). It's not too late to give!

The 2022-24 Watchword is: *Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.* --Romans 12:12

Our Mission

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

Myrtle Corbett
WMU Director

OFFICE CLOSING



The church office will be closed on **Monday, January 1st** in observance of New Year's Day. We hope you have a Happy New Year!

OUTREACH

On **Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m.**, please join us in the fellowship hall for a 2024 OPEN FORUM for "Reaching Out To Our Neighbors." Here we will discuss outreach initiatives that may be waiting for us to explore right outside our door!



BAPTIST MEN

On **Sunday, January 14**, Baptist Men will meet at **8:00 a.m.** for breakfast and fellowship. Our program will be given by Mr. Bobby Hensley who will report on the Ministry at Harvest Table. All men of the church are invited to join us!

DID YOU KNOW?

Christianity can be summed up in one sentence: We are born of the Spirit to live in the Spirit. See **John 3:3**. The new covenant transforms you from a sinner into a saint, from a stranger into a son or daughter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D)

CHURCH COUNCIL

Committee Chairs, please mark you calendar for our Church Council meeting on **Sunday, January 14 at 3:00 p.m.** This meeting will help us plan together for upcoming activities.



On **Friday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m.** please bring a friend and join us for our monthly movie night in the fellowship hall. Enjoy some hot, buttery popcorn as we watch this month's feature film C.S. Lewis' award-winning "Narnia".

MOVIE NIGHT



HAPPY NEW YOU!

Changing the calendar each January is a reminder that God makes all things new.

Directions: Use the clues and the calendar code to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV.

JANUARY 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	God	night	word	in	love	Jesus
glory	therefore	speak	give	light	Christ	is
new	beginning	anyone	waters	help	is	many
he	again	through	earth	made	while	back
new	if	and	creation			

- The second Monday _____
- The last Monday ____
- The 16th _____
- One day before the 20th ____
- The day before the first Friday ____
- The last weekday of the second week _____
- The day after the 20th ____
- The day after 18th ____
- The first day of the second weekend ____
- The last Sunday ____
- The last day of the month _____

Answers: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

2 Corinthians 5:17

QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE

Please plan to attend our next quarterly church conference on **January 24**. We will begin the evening with a covered-dish meal at 5:45 p.m. If Committee Chairs have committee reports to turn in for their committees, please have those in by **Thursday, January 18**. Thank you.



COMMUNION

We are planning to celebrate the Lord's Supper on **Sunday, January 28**, during morning worship.



January 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed for New Year's Day	2	3 6:30 Prayer Service	4	5	6
7 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship	8 6:30 Bible Study	9 6:30 "Reaching Out to Our Neighbors" Open Forum	10 6:30 Prayer Service	11	12	13
14 8:00 Baptist Men's Breakfast 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 3:00 Church Council	15 9:30 Finance Meeting 6:30 Bible Study	16 6:30 Deacons' Meeting	17 6:30 Prayer Service	18	19 6:30 Movie Night	20
21 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship	22 6:30 Bible Study	23	24 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Quarterly Church Conference and Prayer Service	25 6:30 Bible Study	26	27 1:00 Celebration of Life Service for Rick Kimball
28 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship with Communion	29 6:30 Bible Study	30	31 6:30 Prayer Service			

February 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

FBC contact information: Phone - 910-642-2189, Email - office@fbcwhiteville.com, Web - www.fbcwhiteville.com
 Sunday Morning Worship Live on WTXY AM 1540, FM 103.9, kooll039radio.com—*Listen Live*,
 and First Baptist Church Whiteville Facebook page

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