



First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2017 VOLUME 52, NUMBER 1

Happy
NEW YEAR!

"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,"
SAYS THE LORD.

"THEY ARE PLANS FOR GOOD
AND NOT FOR DISASTER,
TO GIVE YOU A FUTURE AND A HOPE."

JEREMIAH 29:11

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

JANUARY 2, CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

JANUARY 15, CHURCH COUNCIL
3 P.M.

JANUARY 16, STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING
9 A.M.

JANUARY 17, DEACON'S MEETING
7 P.M.

JANUARY 20, HOSPICE MEALS SERVED
12 NOON

JANUARY 22, MISSIONS CMTE MEETING
4 P.M.

JANUARY 25, COVERED DISH MEAL &
CHURCH CONFERENCE
5:45 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:

"KEEPING THE CELEBRATION ALIVE"

John 2:1-11

Christmas is over. The presents have been opened; the decorations have been put away; our family visits have ended. By now we're beginning to consider our new year resolutions and considering ways we may improve our lives. I can't help but recall the wedding of Cana, (a celebration in the Gospels that doesn't get a lot of airtime in Baptist circles).

At the wedding, Jesus' mother, Mary, becomes concerned because the wine has run out. She knows this means that the party will be over, so, she takes her concern (somewhat frantically) directly to Jesus. I think we have somewhat of a humorous moment here when Jesus basically asks her what this has to do with him, and she, like only a mother can, puts him in his place. Rather than respond to his query she orders the servants to "Do whatever he tells you to do." While this is the first of Jesus' miracles ever recorded in the Gospels, you can't help but wonder if Mary has seen Jesus do this before, as she seems to be privy to the process that will follow.

And what does Jesus do? He uses the servants by asking them to fill the jars to the brim with water – they comply. What he does next is a miracle. He turns *water* into *wine*! Water has no physical or chemical traits that could ever have the potential of becoming wine. So, this story teaches a lot about the transformative powers of Jesus. It also teaches us about being willing to follow his instructions, no matter what; and to never doubt what Jesus can do with us if we just obey.

But more than anything, I think it is important for us to consider why Mary made this request to begin with. Mary made this request to Jesus because she was concerned that the party will end. Once the wine is gone, the crowd will have little reason to stick around. As we begin a new year, let us be filled with new wine and seek to keep the celebration alive. When you invite Jesus to the party, just when you think the celebration is over, it has really just begun.

- Rev. Ryan Clore



Music Ministry Opportunities Advent and Christmas

We are grateful for each person who participated in our Advent and Christmas services. Some decorated our sanctuary and other buildings. Others hosted receptions for our enjoyment. We were inspired by a sanctuary filled with singers, some in the choir and others in the congregation. Together, as one body of Christ, we truly celebrated the seasons of Advent and Christmas. God has richly blessed us as a congregation.

Now we move forward to anticipate and celebrate a new year. May God likewise abundantly bless you in 2017.

Future Music Opportunities

March 3-5, 2017	Youth Choir Festival (Myrtle Beach, SC)
April 9, 2017	Raleigh Ringers Concert (Lumberton Civic Center) Tickets: \$25 adult, \$10 student

Music Ministry 2016-2017 At a Glance!

Children's Music Activity (for grades 1-6)
Resumes Wednesday, January 4, 5:10 p.m.

The Chancel Choir (for Adults and Youth)
Resumes Wednesday, January 4, 7:15 p.m.

Preschool Music Activity
Each Sunday during the Sunday School hour at 9:45 a.m.

Youth and Adult Handbells
Resumes Sunday, January 8, 4:30 p.m.

Youth Choir (for grades 6-12)
Resumes Sunday, January 8, 5:15 p.m.

Sing With Understanding (A hymn study for all ages)
The second Tuesday of each month, 11:00 a.m.



SUNDAY SERMONS

- January 1: New Year's Day
"Safety Bubble"
Matthew 25:31-46
- January 8: Epiphany of the Lord
"No Words, Just Gifts"
Matthew 2:1-12
- January 15: Second Sunday After the Epiphany
"Respecting John, Following Jesus"
John 1:29-42
- January 22: Third Sunday After the Epiphany
"Why Did Jesus Choose Fishermen?"
Matthew 4:12-23
- January 29: Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany
"My Way or the Highway"
Matthew 5:13-20

Our Financial Stewardship

Worship Attendance Average: 120
Worship Attendance Average for 2016: 115
Sunday School Attendance Average: 59

Dec. 4, 2016 - Attend 110	YTD
Budget Rec'd \$ 4,135.00	Budget Needs to Date \$ 82,033.70
Budget Needed \$ 8,203.37	Budget Received YTD \$ 54,498.20
Under \$ 4,068.37	Budget Under YTD \$ 27,535.50

Dec. 11, 2016 - Attend 121	YTD
Budget Rec'd \$ 5,342.00	Budget Needs to Date \$ 90,237.07
Budget Needed \$ 8,203.37	Budget Received YTD \$ 59,840.20
Under \$ 2,861.37	Budget Under YTD \$ 30,396.87

Dec. 18, 2016 - Attend 151	YTD
Budget Rec'd \$ 7,690.00	Budget Needs to Date \$ 98,440.44
Budget Needed \$ 8,203.37	Budget Received YTD \$ 67,530.20
Under \$ 513.37	Budget Under YTD \$ 30,910.24

Dec. 25, 2016 - Attend 100	YTD
Budget Rec'd \$ 6,479.00	Budget Needs to Date \$ 106,643.81
Budget Needed \$ 8,203.37	Budget Received YTD \$ 74,009.20
Under \$ 1,724.37	Budget Under YTD \$ 32,634.61

Join us on Wednesdays for Supper (5:45 p.m.) and Prayer Meeting (6:30-7:00 p.m.)

A nursery is available after supper.

Wednesday Night Supper



Text - Matthew 8-9

January 4

Hilda Ray / Karen Dawsey

Chicken Pot Pie

& Trimmings

Dessert

Nursery

Mary Alice Stanley

Kathryn Scott

Text - Matthew 10-11

January 11

Janice Young

Chili,

Loaded Baked Potatoes

& Assorted Desserts

Nursery

Tricia Sanderson

Leah Sanderson

Carly Sanderson

Text - Matthew 12-13

January 18

Fred & Martha Senter

Meatloaf, Potato Casserole,

Stewed Green Cabbage,

Corn Muffins & Dessert

Nursery

Peggy & John Norosky

Text - Matthew 14-15

January 25

John & Peggy Norosky

A delicious Surprise

More Surprise

Surprise Dessert

Nursery

Brenda Carter or

Genie Carter

Kate Carter



Resolutions For the New Year

Lucky for us this is the time of year to try new things, when most people won't look at you strangely when they see you trying something different. So when you are making your new year's resolutions, think about some of the opportunities available right here in our church. Committees are always looking for volunteers. Have you thought about the music ministry or encouraging shut-ins? We have Back Pack Ministry, Wednesday Night Supper, Missions work, Sunday School—just to name a few. If you are not a member, maybe this could be the time you decide to make the move and join the church. So many options! A great way to find out more about the activities here at church is the Church Conference on Wednesday, January 25. It's a new year and a time for new beginnings. We look forward to serving with you.

JANUARY MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

1 Grayanna Young
8 Gina Morningstar
15 Katherine Jordan Scott
22 Tricia Sanderson
29 Sherry Waters

WORSHIP SERVICE GREETER

Jackie Jones

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

1 John Sauls / Kirby Sanderson
8 Brownie Cook / Bobby Hensley
15 Emory Worley / Merle Worley
22 Stephen Prince / David Jordan
29 Rose Langston / Kate Carter

NURSERY

1 Genie Carter / Brenda Carter
8 Marty Ezzell / Anna Ezzell
15 Gina Morningstar
22 Looking for volunteers
29 Sandi Floyd

SOUND & VIDEO

1 Jason Schoolcraft
8 Wil Ezzell
15 Kirby Sanderson
22 Eric Kronenwetter
29 Jason Schoolcraft

OFFERING TELLERS

1 Clint & Carolyn Grainger
8 Haywood & Myrtle Cook
15 Stephen & Donna Prince
22 John & Peggy Norosky
29 Mike & Lauren Cole

PEW STOCKER

Yvonne Bass

DVD DISTRIBUTION

1 Peggy Walters
8 Hilda Butler
15 Rose Langston
22 Frances Price
29 Juanita Stanley

USHERS (CHAIRMAN: JOE HOOKS)

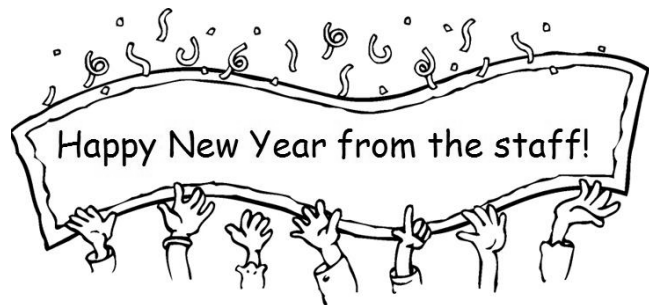
6 Ellis Jordan, Jerry Carter, Emory Worley, Clint Grainger, Trent Young, & John Norosky
8 Jerry Wilson, Travis Harrison, John Sauls, Buster Carter, & Charlie Hall
15 Harry Ward, David Tedder, Emory Worley, Haywood Corbett, & Edgar Tison
22 Buster Carter, Glenn Waters, David Heath, Grayson Ward & Charlie Hall
29 To Be Announced

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

1 Clint & Carolyn Grainger
8 Bill & Jolene Lewis
15 Rose Langston & J.C. Hyatt
22 Jerry Wilson & Yvonne Bass
29 Mitchell Sauls & Lonnie Williams

HOSPICE MEAL FOR MONTH OF JANUARY

Martha Senter



Ministerial Staff

Rev. Ryan Clore, Pastor
Rev. Eddie Fort, Minister of Music

Support Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant
Mrs. Dinah Reaves, Financial Ministry Assistant
Mr. Jim Council, Interim Organist

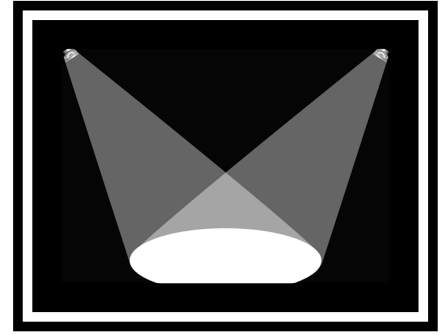
Church Office Hours 8:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m. Monday—Friday
Phone: (910) 642-2139 Fax: (910) 642-5874
Web Site: www.fbcwhiteville.com
Email: fbcoffice@embarqmail.com
CCLI #1445259

1 Dale Duncan	24 David Tedder
Al Williams	27 Frances Yow
2 Betsy Fisher	Kirby Sanderson
3 Linda Ward	Julie Fowler
9 Shannon Ray	Chase Love
16 John Kelly Paite	29 Charlie Priest
17 Angie Melvin	31 Alice Schott
18 Martha Senter	
19 Jerry Sellers	
20 Kimberly Worley	
21 Sally High	
Kay Huggins	
Dinah Reaves	
22 Joanne Vereen	
24 Vivian Brown	
Watha Cook	



FBC SPOTLIGHT

This month's Member Spotlight is written by Melvin Ezzell.



Melvin and Marty have been members of FBC since 1992. Marty has lifelong ties to FBC through her grandmothers, Theresa Foy Hall and Etta Mae Blackwell. Melvin and Marty were married by Dr. Roger Gilbert and committed themselves to the service of the Lord as a couple in August of 1992. They grew in their spiritual walk and found much joy in serving the children and youth over the past 24 years through teaching children's Sunday school, Mission Friends, and serving as Youth Minister for ten plus years. Their love for children and youth has lead them to be advocates through service on many such committees and facilitators of multiple local, regional and international mission's projects with the Youth of FBC.

Melvin and Marty began their own family in 1996 with the birth of Wil and the birth of Anna in 1999. Wil is beginning his final semester at SCC and plans to apply to NC Highway Patrol School following graduation. Anna is a Senior at Whiteville High and is in the process of applying to Colleges for this fall. Marty is a Registered Nurse with Lower Cape Fear Hospice and Melvin is a Registered Forester, and commercial real estate broker specializing in land acquisition and disposition.

Melvin, Marty, Wil and Anna enjoy music, cooking and spending time together especially at the Beach.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Same Story
New Chapter*
Still Making Life for Older Adults...the Best of Times



**North Carolina Offering
for Older Adults**
February 5-12, 2017
Goal: \$600,000

*Every dollar contributed is used
to financially assist Older Adults who
cannot pay the total cost of their care*

Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, Incorporated

The North Carolina Offering for Older Adults/Week of Prayer emphasis will be held February 5-12, 2017 and will look at the Baptist Retirement Homes efforts to keep institutional care both exceptional and affordable. . . making it accessible financially to as many frail Older Adults as possible through the use of technology and the generosity of North Carolina Baptists.

Offering envelopes will be in the pews for the month of February and you can contact the Missions Committee for more ways to help the Baptist Retirement homes.

F3 - FITNESS, FELLOWSHIP AND FAITH

We want to invite the men of our congregation to come out and take part in the Fitness, Fellowship and Faith workout group that meets every Saturday morning at 6:50 at Whiteville High School. There is an interest in the community for also getting a women's group together—nothing specific yet—stayed tuned for details and women, let us know if you have an interest in being involved in the start-up.

WMU NEWS

The WMU group will meet at 10:00 AM on Monday, January 9, in the Fellowship Hall.

Call to Prayer: Mary Alice Stanley
Program: Sylvia Walker

All ladies of the church are invited to join this group and to attend the meetings.
Global Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas offerings are still being accepted.



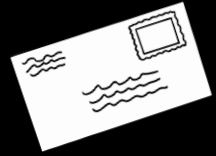
QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our next Quarterly Church Conference is scheduled for **January 25, 2017**. If you are new to our Quarterly Church Conference, we meet after Wednesday Night Supper, which is a covered dish meal, to discuss the changes/activities during the last quarter. This is our opportunity to see what committees are working on and where they could use our help. If you are looking for service opportunities, this will be the perfect time to get the full overview of church activity. ***If you are a chair of a committee, please remember that all***

committee/organizational reports need to be turned in to the church office by Wednesday, January 11.

Please join us to get a better view of how your church is ministering to its members and to the community.

GRATITUDE



RECAP OF MISSIONARIES MARC AND KIM WYATT

Thank you for coming to visit with the Wyatts and learn about their ministry on Missions Day!

Marc and Kim bear witness to Jesus Christ among the immigrant and refugee populations of North Carolina's capital, an eight county region of approximately 2 million people. The Wyatts say, "In this ever changing day of global migration, the 'foreign mission field' just might be your own hometown."

You can learn more about Marc and Kim's ministry at visit www.cbf.net/wyatt or support them by visiting www.cbf.net/wyatt-give.



TO OUR FIRST BAPTIST FAMILY,

Words cannot express our gratitude for the love and support my family has received these last two weeks (my family here in NC and my family in VA). The loss of my grandfather was sudden and unexpected. However, all of you were quick to offer a helping hand, prayers and comfort. Those gestures meant a great deal to us and we are very grateful.

God has truly blessed us with the dearest of friends and community here in Whiteville.

Grace & Peace,

Jenny Clore and Family

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Dear First Baptist Family,

Thank you so much for all the ways you have blessed me prior to, during and after my first of two total knee replacement surgeries. My right knee got replaced Dec. 5. My left knee will hopefully be replaced sometime between March-July, 2017 (due to a genetic deterioration that's left me with no cartilage in either knee).

For any of you who have had a joint(s) replaced, you know the "adventure" that 'tis. So, the prayer covering, the cards, calls, emails, food items, flowers and more have been Such An Encouragement to me during this time. As of Dec. 19, I "graduated" from full-time walker to part-time walker/part-time cane. Maybe by the time you see me, I'll be using a cane full-time or be cane free (for this knee). Yay!

I'd be grateful for your ongoing prayer as I continue to heal and recover ... and prepare for the other knee to be replaced in the near future. I'm thankful we live in a time when medical advancements allow for these procedures, and I expect that by 2018, I'm going to be so very glad I had both knees replaced. Until then, your love and support sure does make my heart smile and my spirits lift.

Thank you! Happy New Year and God Bless. Thanks for all the ways you reflect the love of Christ to me and to the world around us.

Shalom,
Wallyce Todd

January 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>New Year's Day</i> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship, Children's Worship	2  4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	3	4 5:10 Children's Music Activity grades 1-5 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:15 Chancel Choir	5	6	7
8 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	9 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	10	11 5:10 Children's Music Activity grades 1-5 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:15 Chancel Choir	12 10:00 Peer Learning Group for Pastor	13	14
15 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 3:00 Church Council 5:00 Youth Choir 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	16  Note the new time 9:00 Finance Committee Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	17 11:00 Hymn Sing 7:00 Deacons Meeting	18 5:10 Children's Music Activity grades 1-5 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:15 Chancel Choir	19	20 12:00 Hospice Meals Served	21
22 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 4:00 Missions CMTE Mtg 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	23 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	24	25 5:10 Children's Music Activity grades 1-5 5:45 Wednesday Night Covered Dish Supper and Church Conference 7:15 Chancel Choir	26	27	28
29 9:45 Sunday School Apostles/Seekers, Young Adults/Youth Classes to visit Liberty Commons 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	30 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	31				

February 2017						
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				

Sunday Morning Worship www.wtxy1540.com, Audio Streaming Live.....at 11:00 a.m.

Scroll to the "Click to Listen Live" link

First Baptist Church
412 North Madison Street
Whiteville, NC 28472-3298

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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