

Church Group, Team & Committee Meetings

Finance Committee
The Finance Committee meets Tues., Dec. 16 at 2:30pm in the lg. conf. rm.

Executive Committee/First Baptist Diaconate
No meetings in December.

Book Club
The *Shelf Indulgence Book Club* will **not** meet in December.

CARENET Alzheimer/Dementia Caregivers’ Support Group
This month they will only meet once on Thurs., Dec. 11.

St. Paul’s Crisis Ministry Volunteers
***Note, change of week.** “Team B” will prepare lunch on **Thurs., Dec. 11th.**

Coming Up after the New Year!
HOPE MINISTRY FOOD DRIVE
January is First Baptist’s month to collect food and toiletry items for Hope. We will have bins placed at the entrances for your donations. Current Special Needs are: Pop-top canned pastas-Chef Boyardee, mixed vegetables, sugar, pork & beans, instant (flavored) oatmeal packets. Ongoing: ramen soup, peanut butter, cereal, mac & cheese, canned meat, dry pasta, crackers, and hygiene items. Baby items such as diapers, baby wipes, baby lotion, car seats, clothes (up to 5T)

Below is a photo of the church members and Deacons “In-House” Missions Team that gave out food and toiletries to our community on Oct. 18th.



Janet Atwood, Madelene Johnson, Gracia Bentley, Camden Higginbotham, Steven & Pamela Call, Jamie Higginbotham, Bert Young, David Reynolds, Hope Coffey, Pat Handy, Noial Handy, Shari Smith, Jim & Marie Waddell, Hanion Johnson, Dawn Gardner, Annette Battle, and Jim Archibald.

Library News

Sun., Dec. 7, 9:30-10:30 is the Library Open House, and Kid’s Café! We will giveaway 3 of Bert’s Benediction ornaments, and also have some for sale. Join us for refreshments and check out what your church library has to offer, such as Christmas books, puzzles, and DVDs for adults and children, and our library’s holiday book selection: *The Noel Diary*, by Richard Paul Evans.

Bestselling author Jacob Churcher hasn’t been home in nearly twenty years, not since his troubled mother kicked him out at sixteen. Days before Christmas, he learns she has passed away and left him her house. Returning to settle her estate, Jacob must confront painful memories and perhaps find healing along the way.

Four copies are available for checkout—stop by and pick one up for some heartwarming holiday reading!



Here is a snapshot of some of our **Plarning Group** that create sleeping mats that are donated to several different agencies. Left-to-right: Leah Osborne, Melissa Minton, Juanita Sparks, Lynn Day, and Janice Earp (not pictured but present this day are Annette Battle, Patricia Turner, and Grayce Mitchell)

Welcome, New Members

Mr. and Mrs. Matt and Brooke Welborn joined our church family on Sun., November 9th. Please offer them a warm welcome! Add their information to your directory or address book.
Address: 385 Fairway Lane, Wilkesboro, NC
Brooke: 336-957-1088 Birthday: April 11
Email: blueridgespeechpath@gmail.com
Matt: 336-984-0469 Birthday: Dec. 4
Email: welborn.matthew@gmail.com
Children: Claudia (20) and Henry (15)



If you’ve been waiting for a sign to jump into a small group... this is it! We have something for everyone, and we’d love to help you find your place. Small groups are where real connection happens, friendships grow, and our church family comes alive. Don’t sit on the sidelines—reach out and get plugged in today!



Kids News

FOLLOW THE STAR: A 4-Week Series from the Gospels on Christmas
SERIES OVERVIEW: Many families hit the road during the Christmas season, whether it’s to visit loved ones or take a much-needed break. It’s a time-honored tradition—one that might even be traced back to the first Christmas when a bright star dropped a pin on a special location to guide people to the birthplace of the savior. In this 4-week series, kids will learn that God gives people to guide us, God gives hope to guide us, God gives a Savior to guide us, and God gives direction to guide us.

Nursery

We are in need of nursery volunteers for the coming New Year! If you are willing and able to serve in the nursery, please sign up by clicking on the link on our website to pick a date and time. Also, if you have never signed up to volunteer in our nursery before, you will receive an email from “CISA”, a company that processes our back-ground checks for our volunteers that work with children and youth.



Some of the **Visitation Team**, on a recent visit to see Lillian Horner! Pictured left to right: Christy Rhoades, Lillian Horner, Annette Battle, Shari Smith and Janet Atwood

Youth Corner

The Advent and Christmas season is here. As we enter this season let me share a devotional opportunity beginning November 30 which has been given to the youth and families to use also. It is called Follow the Star and you can find it at d365.org or also download the d365 app. Devotions are all year long but beginning November 30 they will provide a special advent devotional. Join our youth and families in this devotional time.

Our youth will provide luminaries for Lovefeast and Cantata, enjoy a progressive dinner and a trip to Winterfest at Carowinds and lead in worship on Christmas Eve . Please encourage and thank our youth for their worship leadership and luminary preparation and presentation.

Dates to Remember for the Youth with details on band and in email.

Sun., Dec. 7 - Youth place luminaries for the Lovefeast Sunday
Sat., Dec. 13 - Youth place luminaries for the Christmas Cantata

Sun., Dec. 14 - Youth Progressive Christmas Dinner. Special thanks to Brian and Jamie Higginbotham, Holden and Whitney Abrams and Bert and Tiffany Young for hosting.

Fri., Dec.19 - Christmas Fast Food Friday

Tues., Dec. 23 - Winterfest at Carowinds

Wed., Dec. 24 - Youth will sing for the Christmas Eve worship service.

Thank you to all who purchased luminaries. We appreciate you remembering your special loved ones and supporting our youth ministry.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Love, Patricia and the FBCNW Youth

Forever Young

We have had a great year traveling and fellowshiping together. As we look forward to a new year please send any suggestions for Forever Young activities to Patricia so plans can be made for 2026. Merry Christmas to all the Forever Young participants!! Patricia



I have had the privilege to go on several trips with this group, and can attest to the fun and fellowship (and food!) that we have! -Katie Rash

Just some of the participants of Forever Young, pictured from one of our outings!

Left to right: Karen Newman, Tammy Prevette, Wilma Lovette, honorary member William Prevette, Lynn Day, Debra Kilpatrick, Hope Coffey, Kim Sharp, Georgia Zamora, Annette Battle, and Rev. Patricia Turner.

Most Sincere Thanks

to all the Folks who helped make our “Count Your Blessings Service” so great!

Soup makers: Whitney Abrams, Nellie Archibald, Holly Carver, Ginger Edmiston, Michael Lentz, Pat Osborne, Lou Pendry, Marie Waddell, Tammy Watts, Linda Wehrmann, Phyllis Wiggins, and Tiffany Young (I tried them all and they were ALL absolutely delicious!!)

Grilled Cheese Chefs: Ginger Edmiston, Bobby Johnson, Bob Taylor, and Viki Taylor

Dessert Pâtissiers: Lisa Lentz, Cheryl Church, Diane Swaim, Pam Greene, Sara McCall, and Annette Battle

Decorator: Annette Battle

Servers and Suppliers: Annette Battle, Diane Swaim, Steve and Phyllis Wiggins, Ronnie and Pat Osborne, Ginger Edmiston and Bobby Johnson, and Bob and Viki Taylor, (and everyone else)

Musicians: Larisa Leapley, Tammy Prevette, Jamie Higginbotham and the First Kids Choir

and to EVERYONE who attended!

Small Group Contacts

Handbell Choir Small Group---Contact Debra Kilpatrick (804) 337-6965

Nursing Home Visitation---Contact Janet Atwood (336) 452-0008 for schedule

Current Events---Contact Nellie Archibald (336) 528-1898

Sermon Discussion Group---Contact Bert Young (910) 876-4247

Trailblazers Hiking/Walking---Wednesdays 9am, Cub Creek by E-chargers. Contact Donna Greene (828) 381-3433

Supper Group---Contact the church office for info, 336-838-5197

Plarning Group---(2nd and 4th Wednesdays) 4:30-5:30 in the Wayland Hall; Contact Annette Battle (336) 500-3383

Reading Between the Vines---Contact Tiffany Young (910) 876-4616

Lunch Group---We will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Mondays. Contact Patricia Turner (704) 473-4644

1st Monday: The 50's, 2nd Monday: Moravian Falls Grill, 3rd Monday: Cagney's; 4th Monday: Amalfi's

Fishing Group---Contact Bert Young (910) 876-4247

Board/Card Games Group---Contact Tory Norwood (336) 469-2441

Poverty Book Study Group---Wed, Dec. 3 at 9:30am Gathering Place

Happy Wanderers Small Group—Mon., Dec. 15 3:30 p.m. Large Conference Room (by church office) Contacts: Jerry Swaim (336) 262-2855 or (336) 818-1450 and Jim McRae (336) 981-7082

FINANCIAL REPORT & DONATIONS TO ENDURING GIFTS

Weekly Report Nov. 23, 2025		
Designated Receipts	\$	7,067.61
Budget Receipts	\$	7,499.00
Weekly Budget Needed	\$	11,328.87
Budget Needed to Date	\$	532,456.67
Budget Received to Date	\$	526,221.19
Budget Deficit	\$	6,235.48

Donations to Enduring Gifts/Rainy Day Fund
Memorials:
In Memory of Iva "Babe" Faw
Given by Shannon, Carla, and Dusty
In Memory of Christine Brown Hamm
Given by Allen and Jeanie Davis
In Memory of Dr. Thomas Simpson
Given by Ida Maude Collins, Phyllis Tate, Marbry & Judith Hopkins, Thomas & Diane Nichols, James & Dianne Iseman, Libby Noah

In Memory of Linda Absher
Given by Tracy Absher

Honorariums:
In Honor of new members: Jim & Mona McRae, John & Wilma Sue German, and Joe & Jill Woodie
Given by Linda Bentley