

Global Missions Offering

This is the time of year that we give a special offering to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship for missions. You have a Missions envelope in your packet or just mark your check for CFB Global Mission offering. May we give so others can serve.

SteepleTalk Newsletter

We are going to **ONE** newsletter per month. We hope all who can will sign up on the website to have the newsletter sent to you by email and thus reducing the cost of mailing. The newsletter in January will be adjusted due to the Holidays.

The Newsletter deadline for the January issue is Tuesday the 7th.

Please help us as we try this new format and we will welcome any and all feedback.

Web Site

Please take the time to look over our New Web Site sss.fbclex.org. We welcome any and all suggestions as we continue to fine tune the site. If you are willing to take and provide pictures we need your help. Just let Tommy or Tobin know.

2013 Family Night

December 11 will be our final Family Night for the year. We are grateful to all who provide leadership with the meal and the music and mission groups. A special thanks to Sandye and Laverne for the planning and cooking. As always we are grateful to Dot Craver, Sarah Vick, Sally Davis, and Booty Hilton for collecting the money. We will resume our Family Nights, Wednesday, January 22, 2014.

DIRECTORY

Dr. Ray N. Howell III
Senior Minister
ray@fbclex.org
336-249-9158 ext.26

Rev. Tommy Wilson
Associate Minister
tommy@fbclex.org
336-249-9158 ext. 22

Dr. James Bates
Director of Music
jimbates123@gmail.com
336-249-9158 ext. 23

Mrs. Jean Ashley
Director, MBCC
jean@fbclex.org
336-249-9158 ext.31

Ms. Libby Everhart
Administrative Assistant
libby@fbclex.org
336-249-9158 ext.21

Mrs. Sherri Salinas
Financial Assistant
Sherri@fbclex.org
336-249-9158 ext.24

336.249.9158 Phone
336.249.4762 Fax
336.249.3224 Info. Line
www.fbclex.org



Family Night 2014

January 22 - April 30

Church Fellowship/Bible Study

6:30 - 7:15 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 22 - First Family Night

Keith Stirewalt, PA, MBA, MDiv
Advance Care Planning Coordinator & Independent Donor Advocate
Wake Forest Baptist Health

Wednesday, January 29 - Birthday Banquet

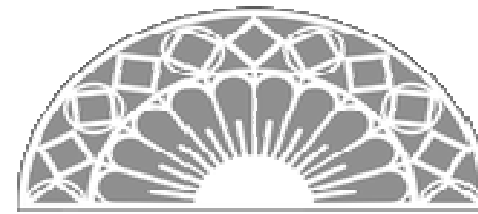
This will be the 23rd year for the Birthday Banquet for the church family. Please join us as we gather in the Fellowship Hall for a special meal and entertainment and celebrate everyone's birthday.

Wednesday, February 5 - Business Meeting

Steeple Talk (USPS 763-910)

Published monthly by
First Baptist Church, Post Office Box 436
Lexington, North Carolina 27293

Periodical Postage paid at Lexington, NC
Return Service Requested



First Baptist Church Lexington, NC

Steeple Talk - December 2013

Advent Season

Saturday, December 7, 5:00 p.m.

Lexington Choral Society
FBC Sanctuary

Sunday, December 8, 2:00 p.m.

Birthday Party for Jesus
MBCC Children's Dining Area

3:00 p.m.

Community Candlelight Service

Edward C. Smith Civic Center

Wednesday, December 11, 6:30 p.m.

Children & Youth Music Program

Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 15, 11:00 a.m.

Nine Lessons & Carols

FBC Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 18, 12 Noon

Pack & Deliver Food Boxes

Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 29, 9:45 a.m./11:00 a.m.

Sunday School & Informal Worship

Christmas Eve Communion Candlelight Service Tuesday, December 24 5:30 p.m. Sanctuary

Arrive early for this tradition of candlelight and communion. We will close the Advent season with the singing of "Silent Night" while the Sanctuary is illuminated by candles and filled with the anticipation of Christmas Day.

Special Christmas Eve Offering

We will be receiving a special offering at the Christmas Eve Service to help our church reach our budgetary commitments for 2013. If every family would consider a special Christmas gift in addition to their regular gift, it would make a tremendous difference. We invite you to come to the Christmas Eve Service prepared to make a special Christmas gift.

2014 23rd Annual Birthday Banquet

Wednesday, January 29

5:45 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Ticket purchase is required and tickets will be available through
Sunday, January 19th.

Cost: Adults: \$6.00 Under 12: \$4.00 Family Limit: \$20.00

Menu: Chicken A La Parisian, Green Beans Almondine, Rice,
Spring Greens and Mandarin Orange Salad/Poppy Seed Dressing, Croissant, Cake/Ice Cream



Meetings & Events

FBC Office and MBCC

will be closed

December 24, 25, 26 and January 1

Sunday, 12/15

Finance Committee Meeting

9:00 a.m.

Parlor

Monday, 1/6

Fraday/Johnson Mission Group

1:45 p.m.

Parlor

Bernice Cross Mission Group

2:00 p.m.

Conference Room

Hand Bell Rehearsal

5:30 p.m.

Music Suite

Tuesday, 1/7

Carolyn Phillips Mission Group

7:00 p.m.

Home of Sidney Minner

Christmas Lights at the Howells

All Children and Middle School Youth are invited to see the Christmas Lights and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies on Sunday evening, December 22 at Joyce and Ray Howell's home at 243 N. Miners Trail.

Senior High Youth And College Students

All Senior High and College Students are invited to a Winter Gathering at the home of Ray and Joyce Howell on Monday, December 30 at 6:00 P.M.

Monday Night/Tuesday Morning Bible Study

January 27 - 7:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

January 28 - 10:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

"The Composition of the Bible"

Followed by

"The Book of Ruth"

Older Children and Middle School Youth

Dr. Howell will have a class for older children and Middle School youth in early January on Christian commitment, baptism, and church membership. Please contact him or the church office if you are interested.

Extended Session

December 08:: Bed Babies: M/M Jon Myers

Toddlers & 2 Year Olds: M/M Randall Potter

3 & 4 Year Olds: M/M William Hopkins

December 15: Nine Lessons & Carols

December 22: Bed Babies: M/M Carl Wagstaff

Toddlers & 2 Year Olds: M/M Kyle Kepley

December 29: Bed Babies: M/M Brian Lancaster

Toddlers & 2 Year Olds: M/M Dave Thornhill

3 & 4 Year Olds: Tina Wall & Lily Thornhill

January 5: Bed Babies: M/M Greg Briggs

Toddler & 2 Year Olds: M/M Dale Lambeth

3 & 4 Year Olds: M/M Charlie Pyle

January 12: Bed Babies: M/M Kevin Foster

Toddlers/2Year Olds: M/M Dale Lambeth

3 & 4 Year Olds: M/M Charlie Pyle

Christmas Decorations

The Sanctuary Committee has been busy decorating the church for the Advent season. The annual Chrismon tree is in place, candles are in the windows, and wreaths and garland have all been hung inside and out. The Nativity crèche is located in our narthex. Thanks to the committee for all they do in preparing the church house for the season.

The Fellowship Halls have also been decorated for the Christmas season. Members of the Social Committee decorated both halls, and we are grateful to them as well. Thanks to all who each year give of your time and talent.

Alternative Gift Fair - 2013

Thanks to all who participated in the bake shop and the Alternative Gift Fair. Thanks to you a total of \$4,228 was raised and given to missions here in our community and beyond. A special thanks to all who donated items to the bake shop. We appreciate your talents and generosity.

A special thanks to the Carolyn Phillips Mission Group and all the others who helped to make this event a reality. God is Good! All the Time!

2014 TDCWL

Please mark your calendars for April 12, 2014 for Touching Davidson County with Love! Thanks to Judy LeCroy, Kay Albright and Tobin Shepherd who are serving as our coordinators. There will be an opportunity for everyone to serve!

Baptists Today

Baptists Today subscriptions are due for renewal. The price is \$20.00 if we have less than 25 orders. If we have 25 subscriptions the price is \$18.00. Call the church office if you wish to renew or add your name.

Youth Ski Trip

The Youth ski trip is February 14 - 16, 2014 at Sugar Mountain. Lodging at Holston Camp. Cost is \$185.00 for 2 nights lodging.

High School Youth Broadway Play

Friday, January 24

Winner of 8 2012 Tony® Awards including BEST MUSICAL, ONCE is a truly original Broadway experience.

Passport Kids

Converse College

Grades 3-6, June 30 thru July 3

The cost is \$200 with a \$100 deposit required at registration.

Signup deadline is Sunday, January 5th.

Call or email Eryn Myers at jegwmyers@triad.rr.com

or 248-6550

Year End Giving 2013

Annual Budget: \$749,000

November Giving: \$46,882

Year To Date Giving: \$555,882

Budget Remaining: \$127,118

With a good December of giving and a transfer of funds from the Endowment we hope to fully fund the 2013 Budget.

Please have all gifts to the church on or before Tuesday, December 31 in order to receive credit for 2013 tax deductions.

Any overage will be applied to the challenge Budget for Missions.

With our HVAC paid in full, your Honorariums/Memorials may be directed in many ways. Two needs are Renovations of the Church Parlor and Transportation Fund for Church Vehicles.

The approved 2014 Budget is \$750,202.00.

Junior/Seniors

Sunday, December 15, there will be a Holiday Concert by the Greensboro Symphony and an Ice Show. There is no charge and non-perishable food items are being accepted for the Salvation Army. Please call the church office of Ruth Mitcham ((243-1711) if you wish to attend.

The bus will leave the church at 3:15 p.m. and we will stop for dinner after the concert.

Seasons Greetings From Your Staff



Memorials

Bereavement Fund: *Horace Conner & Shirley Owen* by Fred & Lynda Belk; **Building & Grounds Fund:** *Horace Conner* by Hal & Donna Routh; **Parlor Fund:** *Horace Conner* by Clifton & Jan Pickett, Doris Butchart, John, Smith III, Carl Garrison, Betsy Riggs, Marylyn Hilton, Ann Corn, John & Carolyn Canup, Estay & Rebecca Greene, Jr., Jill E. Hayes, Norman & Debra Miller; **MBCC Scholarship Fund:** *Horace Conner* by Edgar & Belinda Thomas, The Faithful Workers SS Class; **Transportation Fund:** *Horace Conner* by Silba Rae Fennell; **General Fund:** *Horace Conner* by Richard & Vicki Baxley

Honorariums

General Fund: *Teachers of Team Coed SS Class* by Brenda Hipp; **Transportation Fund:** *Sharon Palmer & Sally Davis* by Good News SS Class

December 2013

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

We cannot express how thankful we are for your continued support of us as I continue to fight cancer. The meals, gift cards, monetary donations, housecleaning and repairing the deck has overwhelmed us.

Your never ending prayers have gotten us through these difficult days the past 3 months. Thank you for all you do to make this difficult journey a little easier.

In Christ,

Kristi, Nathan, Sarah, Spencer & Sidney Hall

Dear Church Family,

As I pause to write this note, I am suddenly aware we lost George exactly four months ago today. Our unimaginable journey began Thanksgiving morning, 2012. I do not have words to express how much our family thanks you for your many kindnesses which continue as we face this holiday season without the one who was such a vital part of our lives. We know he is spending Christmas in heaven free from all suffering. You are a loving and faithful congregation and have blessed us in too many way to count. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Lovingly,

Jeri and all the Wynn family

Salvation Army Angels

All gifts for the Salvation Army Angels may be left on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. We ask that you bring the gifts unwrapped, with the tag attached, no later than 9:30 Monday morning. If you need more time, you may take your gifts directly to the Salvation Army warehouse on South Main Street no later than Friday, December 13.

Volunteers are meeting at 9:15 Monday morning to deliver our angels to the warehouse.