

First Baptist Church

Lexington, NC

Steeple Talk - December 2014

Advent Season

Saturday, December 6, 5:00 p.m.	Lexington Choral Society FBC Sanctuary
Sunday, December 7, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Birthday Party for Jesus MBCC Children's Dining Area
Sunday, December 7, 3:00 p.m.	Community Candlelight Service First Reformed UCC
Wednesday, December 10, 6:30 p.m.	Children & Youth Music Program Fellowship Hall
Sunday, December 21, 11:00 a.m.	Nine Lessons & Carols FBC Sanctuary
Wednesday, December 24, 5:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Service FBC Sanctuary
Sunday, December 28, 9:45 a.m./11:00 a.m.	Sunday School & Informal Worship FBC Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Communion Candlelight Service

Wednesday, 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 2014. 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.

Informal Worship Sunday, December 28

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School - 11:00 a.m. - Worship

We will worship "informally." Dress casually. There will not be a bulletin or order of service. Feel free to share a Christmas story, a testimony, a song, a Scripture or a prayer. We will sing your favorite Christmas hymns.

Meetings & Events

FBC Office and MBCC

will be closed

December 24, 25, 26 and January 1

December

21st. 9:00 a.m.

Finance Committee

January

5th. 1:45 p.m.

Frady/Johnson Mission Group

2:00 p.m.

Bernice Cross Mission Group

6th. 12:00 p.m.

Carolyn Phillips Mission Group

Christmas Lights at the Howells

All children and their families are invited to visit the Christmas lights at Ray and Joyce Howell's home from sunset to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, December 22. Hot chocolate and Christmas cookies will be served. Please bring a flashlight to walk down the drive.

Monday Night/Tuesday Morning Bible Study

January 26 - 7:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

January 27 - 10:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

The Beatitudes

Inmate Christmas Party Needs You

On Tuesday, December 16, Davidson Prison Ministry will hold its annual Christmas Party for the inmates and staff of Davidson Correctional Center on Raleigh Road. We would really appreciate your help!

Homemade or store-bought desserts in large quantities are our greatest need. No fresh fruit or raisins are allowed. There are 258 hungry and appreciative inmates!

Please bring goodies to the rear entrance of the prison between 2:00 and 4:00 P.M. on December 16. From Raleigh Road drive into the parking lot on the right, then proceed to the back of the prison to the entrance to the Dining Hall.

You may volunteer to help by assisting with the party. Please call Newell Davis (248-5831) before December 9th for your name to be placed on the volunteer list.

Thank you so much for your help as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with these inmates.

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.

Extended Session

December 07:: Bed Babies: M/M Jon Myers

Toddlers & 2 Year Olds: M/M Randall Potter

3 & 4 Year Olds: Donna Sink & Anna Raye Tate

December 14: Bed Babies: M/M Carl Wagstaff

Toddlers & 2 Year Olds: M/M Kyle Kepley

3 & 4 Year Olds: Hazel Frady & Brenda Hipp

December 21: Nine Lessons & Carols

December 28: Bed Babies: M/M Brian Lancaster

Toddlers & 2 Year Olds: M/M Dave Thornhill

3 & 4 Year Olds: Tina Wall & Lily Thornhill

January 4: Bed Babies: M/M Greg Briggs

Toddler & 2 Year 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 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.



Sunday, December 14

A special service of worship and music will take place Sunday morning, December 14th at our regular worship hour. Many of our ensembles involved in our music ministry from children to Seniors, hand bell ringers to singers will be involved. You do not want to miss this service.

Sunday, December 21

On Sunday, December 21st, the Sanctuary Choir will keep a time honored tradition with the celebration of "The Nine Lessons and Carols." The wonderful story of our dear Savior's birth will be read from the scriptures and sung by the choir which will be beautifully accompanied by orchestra, piano, and organ. You, the congregation will also join in this celebration of singing and praise. We will surely all be blessed

Youth News

The youth choir will be singing for the Family Night Dinner along with the Joyful Singers and The Chancel Choristers. They will also perform during the 11:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, December 14 and again during the Love Feast at First Methodist at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 21st.

The youth will be traveling to Winterplace WV for their ski trip the weekend of January 30 through February 1.

More information will follow.

Year End Giving 2014

Annual Budget:	\$750,202
Year To Date Giving:	\$555,480
Budget Remaining:	\$194,722

With a good November and December of giving and a transfer of funds from the Endowment we hope to fully fund the 2014 Budget.

Please have all gifts to the church on or before Wednesday, December 31 in order to receive credit for 2014 tax deductions.

Sunday Lunch Grace Episcopal Church January and July 2015

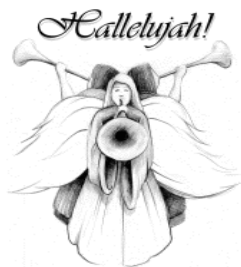
For the past several years members of our church have gone to Grace Episcopal to help serve lunch to the homeless in our community. Other community churches participate with Grace in this mission effort. We will provide assistance for the **four Sundays in January and July**. Our members responsibility will be to serve and clean up. The meal is cooked and funded by Grace. The time is from 12 noon till 12:45 p.m.

A minimum of **2 to 4 people per Sunday** is needed. Please contact Tommy (tommy@fbclex.org or 245-1261 ext. 101) if you can help.

2015 Birthday Banquet

If you are interested in decorating one of the monthly tables for the 2015 Birthday Banquet contact the church office or Tommy. The date for the 2015 Birthday Banquet will be February 11.

Seasons Greetings From Your Staff



Memorials

Endowment Fund: *Frances McLendon* by Robert & Ann Cole, Rod & Phyllis Penry; *Dermont Everhart, Graham Hall, Victor Farrah, Sr., Don Kepley, William Dillahunt, Jr.*, by Rod Phyllis Penry; **Transportation Fund:** *Brenda Bost, William Dillahunt, Jr.*, by Robert & Martha Adams; *Frances McLendon*, by Hal & Donna Routh, Marylyn Hilton, Fred & Lynda Belk, LeGrand & Dolly Skinner; *William Dillahunt, Tim Jones, Scott Millikin, Brenda Bost* by Fred & Lynda Belk; *Josh Lilly, William Dillahunt, Jr., Betty S. Smith, Dermont Everhart, Horace Conner, Bill Medford, Helen Linder, Chad Kirkendall, Larry Beck, Margaret Honeycutt, Victor Farrah, Sr., Bruce Davis, Don Kepley, Cindy M. Lanier, Bryant Stutts, Bryant Farley, Floyd Farley* by Ken & Debbie Auman; **Media Fund:** *Scott Milliken* by Light Bearers SS Class; **Belize Mission:** *W. Stanford Tate* by Louise Tate; **General Fund:** *Frances McLendon* by Light Bearers SS Class, Hubert & Cateen Olive, Joseph & Ann Cardaci, Ken & Debbie Auman, Jackie Inman, Judy LeCroy, Jim & June Honeycutt, **Music Ministry:** *Frances McLendon* by Bob & Phyllis Stump;

Honorariums

Christmas Food Baskets: *Brian, Heather, Emerson, Graeme Belk, Brad, Jeannie, Caroline & Meredith Belk* by Fred & Lynda Belk; *Peggy Barnhardt* by Marylyn Hilton; **Crisis Ministry:** *LeGrand Skinner* by Brenda Hipp

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the prayers, visits, phone calls, food, and donations in memory of my mother, Catherine Skipper York.

Please know that I am grateful for the love and support during this time.

Sincerely,
Bill McGuinn and family

Alternative Gift Fair - 2014

Thanks to all who participated in the bake shop and the Alternative Gift Fair. Thanks to you a total of **\$3,498.25** 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!

2015 TDCWL

Please mark your calendars for March 28, 2015 for Touching Davidson County with Love! There will be an opportunity for everyone to serve!

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 CBF Global Mission offering. May we give so others can serve.

2014 Family Night

December 10 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 Melissa 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 14, 2015.

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 December 10. Volunteers are meeting at 9:15 to deliver our angels to the warehouse.. 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 12.

Youth Fund Raiser

The Chili Lunch and Bake Sale netted \$1,600 for our Youth Ministry. Thank you for your generous support. The funds will be used to offset the cost of Belize and Passport next summer.

Family Night 2015

6:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 14 - Gospel Without Borders*

Wednesday, January 21 - Gospel Without Borders*

Wednesday, January 28 - Quarterly Business Meeting

Wednesday, February 4 - FaithHealth - Heart Emphasis

*Gospel Without Borders brings more light and less heat to the issue of immigration. It separates myth from fact, examines what the Bible says about treatment of the "stranger," shows the experiences of documented and undocumented immigrants, and provides handles for Christians to advance the common good. The documentary highlights stories in five states: Arizona, Arkansas, North Carolina, Alabama and Iowa. Some stories break the heart. Others inspire the spirit. Still others challenge the mind. But all come together and show that the Christian gospel is indeed without borders.

Christmas Food Boxes

Last year we prepared 60 boxes at a cost of \$75 - \$80 each for those in need. Make check payable to FBC. The deadline is Sunday, December 14. The boxes will be delivered on Wednesday, December 17. We have received \$1,450 to date. Contact Peggy Barnhardt or the church office if you wish to help pack boxes or deliver them.

DIRECTORY

Dr. Ray N. Howell III
Senior Minister
ray@fbclcx.org
ext.104

Rev. Tommy Wilson
Associate Minister
tommy@fbclcx.org
ext. 101

Mrs. Jean Ashley
Director, MBCC
jean@fbclcx.org
ext.108

Mr. Paul Freeman
Minister of Music
paul@fbclcx.org
ext. 105

Ms. Libby Everhart
Administrative Assistant
libby@fbclcx.org
ext.102

Mrs. Sherri Salinas
Financial Assistant
Sherri@fbclcx.org
ext.103

Phone

336-245-1261 Phone

336.249.9158 Phone

336-249-4762 Fax

www.fbclcx.org



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