



Pennies From Heaven

The fourteenth annual fall campaign for “Pennies from Heaven is underway through December 7th. Donations are for the direct financial support of The Crisis Ministry of Davidson County. The collection jug will be located in the church office during Sunday mornings, the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday Nights and in the church office all other times.

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Birthday Party for Jesus

Sunday, December 4 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Preschool - Grade 5
MBCC Dining Room



This year’s party will be during Sunday school and extended session. Your child’s Sunday school teachers will lead the games and crafts so that you can attend your Sunday school class and worship. We will have games, crafts, snacks, stories, and music. We are asking that each child bring a **new pair of pajamas** in sizes newborn to child’s 14/16. Please bring them wrapped and marked with gender and size. These pajamas will be donated to IAMJ3 a local organization that provides needed items to foster families here in Davidson county.

<http://iamj3.org/>

Christmas Food Boxes

It is time again for the Sunday School Mission Project—Food Boxes at Christmas for the needy in our community. Last year we prepared 60 boxes at a cost of \$75 to 80 per box. Please give as you are able. All checks should be made to First Baptist Church. December 7 is the deadline for contributions. The boxes will be packed and distributed on Wednesday, December 14. Contact Peggy Barnhardt or the church office if you wish to help box items or distribute boxes. Pick-up trucks and drivers will also be needed to deliver food to the church at 9:00am on December 14.



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First Baptist Church

Lexington, NC

Steeple Talk - December 2016

The 43rd Annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

We will celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent with the 43rd Annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on December 18. This rich tradition highlights the celebration of our Savior’s birth for the First Baptist Family.

Christmas Eve Communion Candlelight Service Saturday, December 24 at 5:30 pm - Sanctuary

Our traditional Christmas Eve Service begins at 5:30 pm. We will hear the story of Christmas from Luke’s Gospel, sing traditional Christmas carols, share holy communion and sing “Silent Night” as we light candles in the darkness. We will also receive a special offering to help us reach our 2016 budget.

Christmas Day Worship

Join us for an informal service of worship on Christmas Day beginning at 10:30 am. You are invited to “come as you are” for an informal time of sharing Christmas joy. The Nine Lessons and Carols will be replayed on the radio broadcast Christmas morning.

Advent Season

Saturday, December 3 5:00 pm

Lexington Choral Society
FBC Sanctuary

Sunday, December 4, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Birthday Party for Jesus
MBCC Children’s Dining Area

Wednesday, December 7, 6:30 pm

Children & Youth Music Program
Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 18, 11:00 am

Nine Lessons & Carols
FBC Sanctuary

Saturday, December 24, 5:30 pm

Christmas Eve Communion
and Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 25, 10:30 am

FBC Sanctuary
Informal Worship
FBC Sanctuary

Meetings & Events

First Baptist Church Office will be closed December 22, 23 and 26 for Christmas Holidays and January 2 for New Year's Holiday
MBCC will be closed December 23, 26 & 27 for Christmas Holidays and January 2, for New Year's Holiday

- December 3- Welcome to December Concert
Sanctuary—5:00pm
- December 4- Birthday Party for Jesus
MBCC Dining Room 10:00am—12 noon
- December 6 - Jr/ Sr. Group Trip to Blandwood
- December 7 - Children's Choirs Christmas Program
Fellowship Hall - 6:30pm
(Last Wednesday Night Dinner & Program for the fall)
- December 12 - Christmas Angels needed at the church and delivered at 4:00pm to the Salvation Army
- December 14 - Christmas Food Boxes Packed and Distributed—Fellowship Hall—10:00am
- December 18— Finance Committee Meeting
Parlor—9:00am
- December 18 - Nine Lessons & Carols Service
Sanctuary—11:00am
- December 22, 23 and 26—Church Offices
Closed for Christmas Holidays
- December 23, 26 and 27—MBCC Closed for Christmas Holidays
- December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Sanctuary 5:30pm
- December 25 - Christmas Informal Worship
Sanctuary 10:30am - No Sunday School
- December 30 - Last Day for Financial Contributions
All Contributions needed by 12 noon
- January 2 - Church Offices & MBCC Closed for New Year's Holiday

Church Office Contact By E-mail & Phone

If you need to send email to the church office, please direct it to the email address fbclxington@fbclx.org. Staff members will monitor email coming to this address. You can also leave messages on the voice mail when you dial 336-245-1261, Ext. 102. Individual email addresses for staff members

Extended Sessions

December 4: Bed Babies: M/M Jon Myers, **2 Year Olds:** M/M Josh Boyle, **3 & 4 Year Olds:** Donna Sink & Ann Bishop
December 11: Bed Babies: M/M Thomas Jolly, **2 Year Olds:** M/M Kyle Kepley, **3 & 4 Year Olds:** Beverly Fulbright & Brenda Hipp
December 18: Nine Lessons & Carols - Paid Nursery
December 25: Bed Babies: No Nursery—Informal Church



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.

Martha Best Children's Center Christmas Fundraiser

Ho, Ho, Ho !Christmas will be here before you know it. MBCC is having a fundraiser that will make someone's Christmas very special. We have filled 4 stockings with wonderful goodies: there's one for a boy, girl, gentleman and lady. We will be selling raffle tickets for each stocking beginning Wed. 11/9 through 12/14. Tickets will be \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00. All proceeds will go towards providing extraordinary care for the children of MBCC!! Thanks for your continued support!

Christmas Decorations

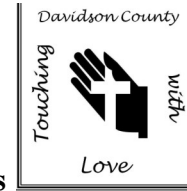
The Sanctuary Committee has been busy decorating the church for the Advent season. The Chrismon tree and new Chrismons are in place, candles are in the window, and wreaths have all been hung inside and out. The Nativity crèche is located in our narthex. Thanks to the committee for all they do in preparing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

Operation Christmas Child -Shoebox Ministry

Our Church was able to provide 143 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child this year. Our thanks goes out to Barbara Epley for coordinating this effort towards this ministry.

Save the Date

Saturday, April 22, 2017
Touching Davidson County
With Love



Salvation Army Christmas Angels

There are many families in Davidson County who cannot provide for their children this Christmas. You can bring joy to a special child by adopting a Salvation Army Christmas Angel. Our church goal is 125 angels. Please bring your unwrapped gifts to the church by Monday, December 12. Volunteers will be needed at 4:00pm that afternoon to transport gifts to the Salvation Army. Thanks to Jeff and Catherine Bowers who are leading this effort.

Sunday Lunch Grace Episcopal Church January and July 2017

Volunteers are needed to help serve lunch during the months of January and July. There are 5 weeks in each month to cover. Please call the church office if you are willing to help. The time is 12:00 to 12:45 pm.

Sunday Morning Coffee Room

In order to encourage fellowship and enjoy a beverage, join us on the second floor near the elevator on Sunday mornings for a hot beverage and conversation.

Sundays - 9:30 a.m. - Second Floor Elevator Lobby

Need Volunteers for each Sunday
Please Sign Up TODAY

Monday Night/Tuesday Morning Bible Study

January 23 - 7:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
January 24 - 10:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

Church Travel

The 20th Annual Bible Study Field Trip is scheduled for May 1-3 with Charleston, SC as our destination. Detailed information will be available in January. A Holy Land pilgrimage is scheduled for February 22-March 4, 2018. You can pick up an itinerary in the church office.

Honorariums

Sue & Louie Bowles by Robert & Martha Adams and Fred McIntyre, Jr.

Memorials

General Fund: Betsy Wall Medford by Woodie & Teenie Tilley, Bill & Sara Delapp, Barry & Renee Sink, LeGrand & Dolly Skinner, George & Amy Chambless, Suzy Conner, Dave Colescott, Miriam Conner, Brenda Hipp, Fred McIntyre, Jr. Robert & Martha Adams, Wayne Johnson, Talmadge & Ian Silversides, Betty & J.B. Lopp

Jane Hearn by Betty Sink: **Clyde Cole Edmond Jennings Yelton & Jane Hearn** by Robert & Martha Adams

Buster Willis by Margaret Willis, Carol Ward, Jane Jones, M/M Luke Shepherd, David & Julia Dunn, Brenda Hipp, Shawn & Amy Deforest

Additional Memorials & Honorariums will be listed in the January 2017 newsletter.

Thank You Notes

Dear Congregation,
On behalf of our Agency, I would like to express our sincere appreciation again for your donations of school supplies for the 162 foster children. It has been helpful for our children to have the needed school supplies, as you know this contributes to a more successful school year for our children. Your congregation has always been so supportive of our program throughout the years.

Susan Craig
Program Coordinator Davidson Co. Dept. of Social Services

Dear Church Family,
We have been humbled by the outpouring of love and caring this congregation has expressed as we grieve the loss of our beloved husband and father. Thank you for the delicious food, cards and calls, but most of all, your prayers. Continue to remember to pray for us as we learn to walk this new path.
Sincerely,
The Family of Buster Willis

CHRISTMAS GOODIES AND DESSERT NEEDED!

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 2:00pm – 4:00pm

WHO: For the inmates and staff of the men's prison on Raleigh Road for the annual Christmas Party. **WHAT:** Any home-baked desserts such as cakes, pies, and cookies. You may also buy desserts. Even doughnuts, Little Debbie Products and sugar-free desserts can be used. No fresh fruit or raisins. **WHERE:** Bring goodies to the rear entrance of the prison. From the Raleigh Road view, drive into the parking lot on the right, then proceed to the back of the prison where the entrance to the Dining Hall is located. Or you can bring your items to the home of Newell Davis. **HOW MUCH:** There are 258 men. Generous quantities are appreciated. Thank you so much for helping with this project. If you would like to serve or participate in the party in any capacity, or for more information, you may call Newell Davis at 336-248-5831.