

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Wednesday Dinner**—Baked Ham, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Corn Bread and Dessert
- **The 2011 Advent Guides** are now available at the Welcome Center. Please pick up a copy for your family to use this Christmas season with devotions, daily scriptures and suggested activities.
- **G-Force**—will not meet in December. During worship Activity bags are available and located at the back of the sanctuary. G-Force will resume the second Sunday of January. Preschool extended care (birth–5 year olds) will continue to meet throughout December.
- **Helen Masters Mission Group**—will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 10:00 am at the home of Betty Parkell.
- **Food Drive For GCM** - Nov. 22-Dec. 25. The Mission's Committee invites you to participate in a non-perishable food drive for Gainesville Community Ministries. Please bring your food donations to the display in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Christmas Poinsettias**— in honor or memory of a loved one can be purchased for \$12.00. They will be in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 18th and can be picked up following the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day worship service. Please call or email Susan Balloon to place your order (373-0233 or shb1950@bellsouth.net).

Calendar of Upcoming Events

| | |
|--|---|
| Dec 21st —Office Closed (9-11 am) —No Evening Activities | Dec 26th —Office Closed |
| Dec 22nd —Office Closed | Dec 28th —No Evening Activities |
| Dec 24th —Christmas Eve Service (5 pm) Carols, Communion & Candlelight (childcare provided) | Dec 29th —Office Closes at noon |
| Dec 25th —Worship Service (11 am) A family Christmas (no childcare provided) | Jan 1st —Bible Study (10 am) —Worship Service (11 am) |
| | Jan 2nd Office Closed |



This Week at First Baptist

Sunday, December 11

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:00 am Coffee Break—"Gathering Area"
- *^9:30 am Bible Study
- *^10:50 am Gathering Time—in the Sanctuary
- *^11:00 am Morning Worship
- 4:00 pm Student Ministry Musical Rehearsal
- 5:00 pm Christmas Musical—Hark the Herald
With Holiday Social to follow in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 13

- 10:00 am Helen Masters Mission Meeting
- 6:00 pm Perspectives

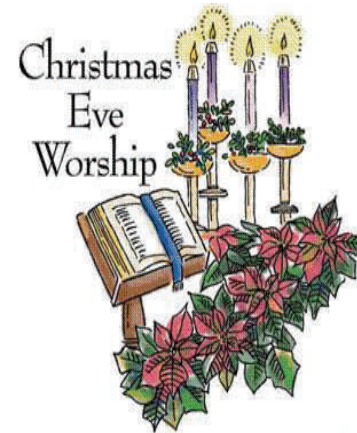
Wednesday, December 14

- 5:30 pm Dinner
- 6:00 pm First Family Time
- *6:30 pm Student Christmas Musical—Yo! Christmas Tree
Sanctuary Choir Christmas Party to follow Musical
- *Nursery Care Available ^Hearing Impaired Services Available



Christmas Day
Worship Service

December 25, 2011
11:00 a.m.

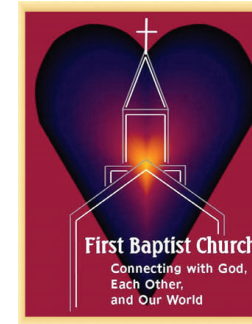


Christmas
Eve
Worship

December 24, 2011
5:00 p.m.

Office Hours: 9:00 am—4:00 pm, Monday - Thursday; Closed Fridays
Extended Wednesday Hour 4:30—5:30 pm

First Baptist Church • 14105 NW 39th Ave. • Gainesville, Florida 32606
(352) 376-4681 • info@fbcgainesville.net • www.fbcgainesville.net



THE GOOD NEWS THE WEEK OF DEC 11-17, 2011

Gathering Time

Preparing our Hearts for Worship

*We prepare to worship the Lord as we consider the
Promise of Joy we have in Christ*

The First Family Gathers

Mrs. Sheila Fairless

Song of Welcome

95—*Go, Tell it on the Mountain (1&3)*

Prelude

Ms. Erica Wessling

First Reading

Psalm 126

Response

Adore Him

Voices Afire

Opening Praise 87—*Joy to the World! The Lord is Come (1,2,4)*

Morning Prayer & Welcome

Dr. John Fairless

Second Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Children in Worship

Advent, the Coming Promise

Advent Meditation

The Light of Joy

Offertory Hymn

108—*How Great Our Joy (1,2,4)*

Offertory Prayer

Deacon William Fairless

Offertory

Sing Noel, Sing Hallelujah

Sanctuary Choir

Sermon

Rev. Lynn Williams
My Soul Magnifies the Lord
Luke 1:46b-55

Response

86—*O Little Town of Bethlehem (1,3,4)*

Benediction

I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Postlude

Ms. Erica Wessling

Dr. John P. Fairless, Senior Pastor
Rev. C. Lynn Williams, Associate Pastor for Families of Children and Youth
Mrs. Sheila Fairless, Music, Media and Worship Coordinator
Mrs. Belinda LaMee, Preschool Coordinator

A WORD FROM PASTOR JOHN



Unlimited. That's the word for today. As in the unlimited grace and glory of God.

In the pew racks there are special offering envelopes, provided by our Stewardship Committee. They are encouraging us to make an "extra" offering in response to the grace of God in our lives and for our church in 2011. Practically, this helps us have a strong finish to the church finances for the year. Of course, that means that we

can get off to a good start in 2012 with the ministries and mission we plan to undertake.

Spiritually, giving is always a blessing...but especially in this season. The gift of God to us and to our world is Jesus Christ. That's why we have **Christmas**, right? Like most of you, I will be giving gifts to those that I love during this holiday season. It spreads the joy and warms my heart to do so. I love giving gifts at Christmas!

This offering gives me the opportunity to give a gift to the Christ who loves me so. It is "something special" -- an extra gift, over and above my regular offering. I invite you to join me in making this contribution in the joyous spirit of Christ's love.

One suggestion is to give a **tithe offering** -- which means 10%. Some of you already give 10% or more of your income as a regular offering to God through His church. Others of us are giving some amount regularly, and still others are just learning about giving. No matter what your category, give some thought and prayer to what would be a good offering for you. The main requirement: give something joyfully and with thanksgiving to God!

Many thanks, by the way, to all of you who have offered prayers and encouragement in my second round of eye surgery. You will see me around this Sunday and through the week, probably with a bit of a "black eye." I am optimistic about God's healing for my eye -- or for the grace to deal with an infirmity. As Paul reminded the Thessalonians, "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."

I have you (thankfully) in my heart,

Pastor John

Scripture Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2011

II Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38



Advent Scripture Readings

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- **Welcome**...If you are our guest we hope that you will sign in at the "Welcome Desk" where we can get to know you better and where you will receive a name tag. Members are encouraged to pick up your name tag from the boards.
- **Hospitality**...Guests and members are invited to the "Gathering Area" after worship services for refreshment and fellowship.
- **Restrooms** are located in the hallways to the east and west of the "Gathering Area". There is a family restroom located in the east hallway near the Children's and Preschool Wing.
- **Parents**, we ask that children and youth remain in services until dismissed with their leaders, activity packets are available. Preschool Extended Session meets during worship and parents may accompany their child before or any time during the worship to the preschool area.
- **Hearing Assistance Devices** are available, please check with an usher.
- **The "Good News"** can be accessed at the end of the week, prior to Sunday, at www.fbcgainesville.net. To receive an email copy of the "Good News" and the "Midweek Update" please send a request to brandi.bell@fbcgainesville.net. Please return your paper copy to a recycle basket if you do not wish to keep it.

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Dec 11-17

Bill Summerhill
375-4653
Faye Summerhill
376-4653

Dec 18-24

Gaylon Overbey
386-418-4306
Nancy Overbey
386-418-4306

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dec 18

Mike Smith

Dec 25

Marie Dale

VOLUNTEERS

Offering Receivers/Ushers:

Harold Denmark, Bob Atchison,
Gaylon Overbey, Dani Alderman,
Susan Balloon, Mike Smith

Audio Visual

(Coordinator: Brandi Bell)

Early Worship: Brandi Bell

Greeters:

Dec 4: Ira & Nicola Hill
Dec 11: Hank Cothran
Dec 18: Bo & Garin Davidson
Dec 25: Ralph Harris

Morning Worship:

Dec 4: Chuck King/Brandi Bell
Dec 11: Brandi Bell/ Phil Padgett
Dec 18: Chris Byrd/Brandi Bell
Dec 25: Brandi Bell

THE PEOPLE CAME/THE PEOPLE GAVE

| | Nov 13 | Nov 20 | Nov 27 | Dec 4 |
|----------------------------------|--|------------|------------|-------------|
| Bible Study | 120 | 120 | 119 | 117 |
| Worship (All Services) | 148 | 211 | 182 | 176 |
| Offering | \$6,214.30 | \$9,423.11 | \$6,011.50 | \$15,442.00 |
| | <i>(Weekly Budget Needs \$11,562.79)</i> | | | |

FORWARD BY FAITH TO THE FINISH

Goal: \$550,000.00

Pledged to Date: \$240,603.00 Total Pledged Received: \$147,298.00

Total Received to Date: \$244,796.44 Non-Pledged Received: \$97,498.44

THANK YOU

Thank you to the faithful, thoughtful and loving members of First Baptist Church, families, and friends for the outpouring of love and kindness for Operation Christmas Child. Thanks to all the helpful members that did a terrific job to make this mission a success. This year we had a total of 242 boxes collected.

God bless you all, Helen Masters Mission Group

MEMORIALS

Joe Hill
Marie Dale

Catherine Kuykendall
Marie Dale