

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Wednesday Dinner**—will resume Jan 4, 2012.
- **G-Force**—will resume Jan 8. During worship Activity bags are available and located at the back of the sanctuary. Preschool extended care (birth–5 year olds) will continue to meet throughout December.
- **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 Fellowship Hall.
- **Marriage Enrichment**—couples of all ages and stages (engaged to senior couples), Sun, Jan 8, noon to 2:30, Fellowship Hall, lunch \$5 each, child care provided, for reservations contact Ben or B.J. Mather, 376-1344 or benbjmather@hotmail.com

*Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Murray Miller
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Carley Ferris to Brian Lee Bennett
son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Mac Bennett
on Saturday, the seventh of January
Two thousand and twelve
at five o'clock in the evening
First United Methodist Church
2416 West Cloverdale Park
Montgomery, Alabama*

*Reception
RSA Plaza Terrace*

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Dec 25th —Worship Service (11 am) A family Christmas (no childcare provided)	Jan 2nd Office Closed
Dec 26th —Office Closed	Jan 8th Marriage Enrichment
Dec 28th —No Evening Activities	Jan 13th—16th Youth Ski Trip
Dec 29th —Office Closes at noon	Jan 21st New Member Orientation Workshop
Jan 1st —Bible Study (10 am) —Worship Service (11 am)	Jan 22nd e-NOW

This Week at First Baptist

Sunday, December 18

- 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

Wednesday, December 21

No Wednesday Evening Activities

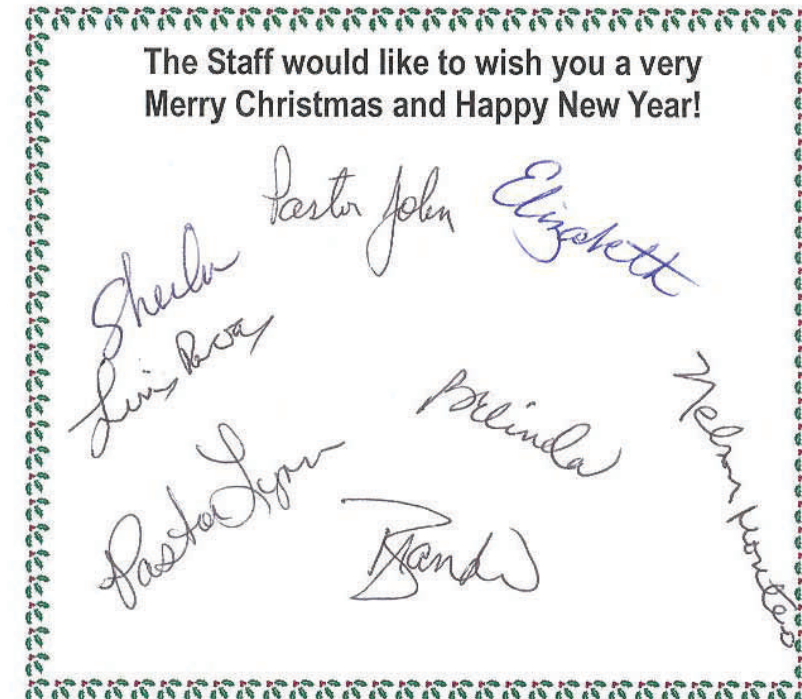
Thursday, December 22

Office Closed

Saturday, December 24

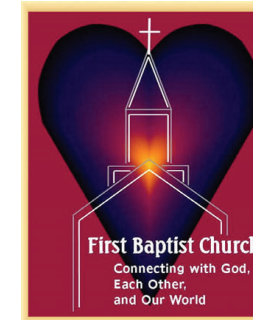
5:00 Christmas Eve Service

*Nursery Care Available ^Hearing Impaired Services Available



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 18-24, 2011

Gathering Time

Preparing our Hearts for Worship

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

The First Family Gathers

Rev. Lynn Williams

Song of Welcome

Good Christians All Rejoice

Prelude

Mrs. Eve Lipoff

First Reading

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Response

Sanctuary Choir

Rhythm of Rejoicing

Opening Praise

89—*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Morning Prayer & Welcome

Rev. Lynn Williams

Second Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Children in Worship

Advent, the Coming Promise

Advent Meditation

The Light of Love

Offertory Hymn

101—*Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

Offertory Prayer

Deacon Mike Smith

Offertory

Voices Afire

Savior

Sermon

It's Good to be the King
2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Dr. John Fairless

Response

91—*Silent Night, Holy Night (1,3,4)*

Benediction

Romans 16:25-27

Postlude

Mrs. Eve Lipoff

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



Encouraged. Grateful. Awestruck.

All of these are candidates for my word of the week. As I look around the lives that make up First Baptist Church, I am so encouraged by the growth I see -- not only in numbers, but in depth of commitment and the grace of God made plain. You are a blessing to me -- because you are allowing God to bless

you and be a blessing to others through you! And that gets at the true purpose of God for our lives, I believe. Keep that up, FBC!

I am enormously grateful for the help and strength God gives to me, and the way I hear from many of you that God is with you in the struggles and successes of your life. In Advent, we have consistently thought about the ways God draws near to us. As Paul reminded the Christians in Rome: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31)

I appreciate Pastor Lynn's reminder in her sermon last Sunday about the awe that surrounds this incredible story of Christmas. As I approach and experience the season for the 54th time in my young life, I hope I will always feel that sense of deep wonder and inexpressible joy found in the tale of angels, shepherds and the baby in the manger. God is doing an amazing thing by sending Christ into our midst. Thanks be to God!

I appreciate the **Unlimited Grace and Glory** opportunity to make an extra financial gift to the Lord during this month of December. The special envelopes are available in the pews of the sanctuary and at other key places around the church building. Someone asked me on Sunday if this was a "special offering" for a designate purpose, such as the Building Fund. It is "special" in the sense that it is an extra, over-and-above opportunity that goes beyond our normal tithes and offerings -- but it is to be used for the ministry budget of FBC. We need a strong finish to the year financially -- which gives us a strong start on the new year of 2012. Prayerfully consider what your extra gift will be.

Every single day of the year -- but especially at Christmas -- I have you in my heart!

Pastor John

POINSETTIAS

In Memory:

Martha & Charles Outen
Myrtice & Ledger Walker

Anne & Benny Walker

Clara Halbrook

Ginger & Tommy Copeland

Tim Byrd

Elizabeth & Chris Byrd

Winfred Hazen

Rob Balloon

Susan & Don Balloon

Bob Barnes

Jean Barnes

Peggy & Bill Finley

Edith & Emory Weller

Mabel & Roderick Summerhill

Faye & Bill Summerhill

Kyle Mather

B.J. & Ben Mather

Julie Hill

Sybil & John Hill

Dr. John R. Fairless

Dr. William A. Dillon

John & Sheila Fairless

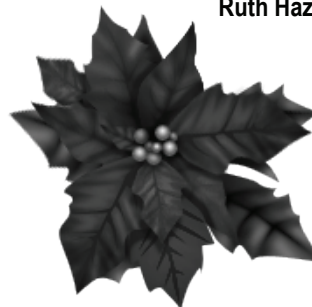
Francis Skipper

Ida Skipper

In Honor:

Ruth Hazen

Don & Susan Balloon



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 pickup 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 18-24

Gaylon Overbey

386-418-4306

Nancy Overbey

386-418-4306

Dec 25-31

Mike Smith

375-3806

Jo Ann Parham

336-2566

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dec 25

Marie Dale

Jan 1

Russell Clifton

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

Morning Worship:

Dec 4: Chuck King/Brandi Bell

Dec 11: Brandi Bell/ Phil Padgett

Dec 18: Chris Byrd/Brandi Bell

Dec 25: Brandi Bell

Greeters:

Dec 4: Ira & Nicola Hill

Dec 11: Hank Cothran

Dec 18: Bo & Garin Davidson

Dec 25: Ralph Harris

THE PEOPLE CAME/THE PEOPLE GAVE

	<u>Nov 20</u>	<u>Nov 27</u>	<u>Dec 4</u>	<u>Dec 11</u>
Bible Study	120	119	117	115
Worship (All Services)	211	182	176	176
Offering	\$9,423.11	\$6,011.50	\$15,442.00	\$9,146.00
	<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: \$148,298.00

Total Received to Date: \$246,046.44

Non-Pledged Received: \$97,798.44

THANK YOU

Thank to the Hospitality Ministry team members for all their help through the year! Thank you to those in the congregation who brought cookies, etc. for the Christmas Social! This made it much easier for our team to conduct the Social. B.J. & Ben Mather, Co-leaders.

Congratulations to Brandi Bell, Church Ministry Assistant, for achieving five years of service to First Baptist Church on December 11, 2011!