


## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Wednesday Dinner**—BBQ Chicken, Corn Bread, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Rolls 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.
- **Christmas Holiday Social Treats**—Please bring cookies or your special Christmas treat (either purchased or home-made) to share with your church family and our guests at the Christmas Social following the musical on Sunday evening, December 11. Please take your items to the kitchen that Sunday morning.
- **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 Decorating**—Help is needed in decorating the church for the Christmas season. If you can assist, please call or email Susan Balloon for more information (373-0233 or shb1950@bellsouth.net).
- **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 18<sup>th</sup> 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

<b>Dec 3<sup>rd</sup></b> —Parent's Night Out (4-9pm)	<b>Dec 24<sup>th</sup></b> —Christmas Eve Service (5 pm)
<b>Dec 11<sup>th</sup></b> —Adult Christmas Musical: <i>Hark the Herald</i> (5-6:30 pm) with Holiday Social afterwards	Carols, Communion & Candlelight (childcare provided)
<b>Dec 14<sup>th</sup></b> —Student Christmas Musical: <i>Yo! Christmas Tree</i> (6:30 pm) following Wednesday Night Dinner	<b>Dec 25<sup>th</sup></b> —Worship Service (11 am)
<b>Dec 21<sup>st</sup></b> —Office Closed (9-11 am)	A family Christmas (no childcare provided)
<b>Dec 22<sup>nd</sup></b> —Office Closed	<b>Dec 26<sup>th</sup></b> —Office Closed
	<b>Dec 29<sup>th</sup></b> —Office Closes at noon
	<b>Jan 1<sup>st</sup></b> —Bible Study (10 am)
	—Worship Service (11 am)
	<b>Jan 2<sup>nd</sup></b> Office Closed

## This Week at First Baptist

### Sunday, December 4

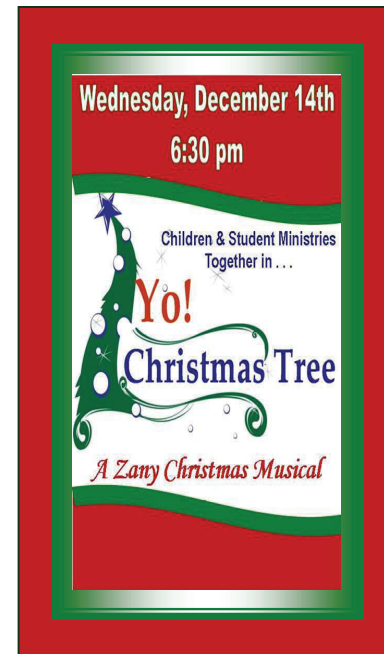
- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:00 am Coffee Break—"Gathering Area"
- \*^9:30 am Bible Study
- \*^10:50 am Gathering Time—in the Sanctuary
- \*^11:00 am Morning Worship
- 12:00 pm Deacons Meeting
- 4:00 pm Student Ministry Musical Rehearsal

### Tuesday, December 6

- 6:00 pm Perspectives

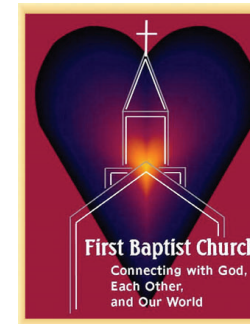
### Wednesday, December 7

- 5:30 pm Dinner
- 6:00 pm First Family Time
- \*6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study  
Children & Youth Activities
- \*6:30 pm Adult Christmas Rehearsal—Sanctuary (6:30-8:00)
- \*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 4-10, 2011

### Gathering Time

### Preparing our Hearts for Worship

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

### The First Family Gathers

Dr. John Fairless

### Song of Welcome

*Isn't He*

### Prelude

Mrs. Barbara Young

### First Reading

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

### Response

Voices Afire

*Rejoice!*

### Opening Praise

88—*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

### Morning Prayer & Welcome

Dr. John Fairless

### Second Reading

Mark 1:1-8

### Children in Worship

Advent, the Coming Promise

### Advent Meditation

The Light of Peace

### Offertory Hymn

100—*Angels We Have Heard on High*

### Offertory Prayer

Deacon Bill Summerhill

### Offertory

Sanctuary Choir

*Carol for Advent*

### Sermon

Dr. John Fairless

*Well, Bless Your Heart*  
Isaiah 40:1-11

### Response

85—*The First Noel*

### Benediction

2 Peter 3:8-15a

### Postlude

Mrs. Barbara Young

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



Advent is the season where the church learns, all over again, how to wait. It is a time for learning patience and perseverance. I must admit that those qualities are sometimes lacking in my own life. I'm like everybody else in our hurry-up world -- I kind of like having **what** I want, **when** I want it!

The rhythm of this season is different, by design. The Bible's message is always counter-cultural; even though many of us have been reading these scriptures and stories for a lifetime, they continually surprise us. "The way to get what you want is to give up...the way to become great is to humble yourself...the fastest and quickest path to success, wealth and blessing is to wait for God's timing."

Hmmm...believing those messages might get you called **Crazy** in our world today!

At Advent, we are called to consider what it means to be "crazy for Christ," I suppose. When it gets right down to it, that's a title we should all hope to claim.

WIWAK (when I was a kid,) it was still popular to receive a piece of fruit every year in our stockings. My Mom told us about growing up "when times were hard," and receiving a fresh orange at Christmas was an almost unimaginable treat. I like fruit for Christmas -- though I am certainly not averse to pecan pie and boiled custard, either!

The Apostle Paul reminded the church: "...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." (Galatians 5:22-23) Call me crazy, but that sounds like a pretty good Christmas list to me!

I have you in my heart,

Pastor John

## Scripture Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2011

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalms 126

Luke 1:46b-55

I Thessalonians 5:16-24



## 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](http://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](mailto: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 4-10

William Fairless  
283-3293  
Jean Barnes  
332-8605

#### Dec 11-17

Bill Summerhill  
375-4653  
Faye Summerhill  
376-4653

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

#### Dec 11

William Fairless

#### Dec 18

Mike Smith

### VOLUNTEERS

#### Offering Receivers/Ushers:

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

#### Greeters:

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

#### 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

### THE PEOPLE CAME/THE PEOPLE GAVE

	Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 20	Nov 27
<b>Bible Study</b>	114	120	120	119
<b>Worship</b> (All Services)	182	148	211	182
<b>Offering</b>	\$15,215.40	\$6,214.30	\$9,423.11	\$6,011.50
	<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: \$146,373.00  
Total Received to Date: \$243,100.44      Non-Pledged Received: \$96,727.44

