

The First Baptist Informer Rockingham, North Carolina

"To know Christ and make Him known."

Volume XXXIV * Number 46 * November 27, 2011 through December 3, 2011



Christmas Card Post Office

OPENING NOVEMBER 27, 2011!



November 27, 2011

Advent booklets have been placed around the church. Be sure to pick up your copy of Daily Advent Devotionals.



December 4, 2011

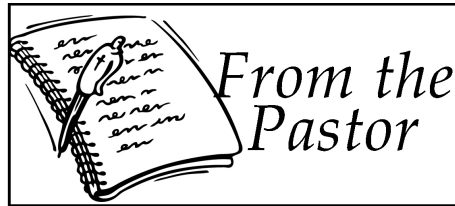
**6:30 pm
FBC Sanctuary**

Resource Recording Team, Monday, November 28, 2011: Beverly Carnes, Sally Pierce; **Attendance Report, November 20, 2011:** Sunday School—110; Worship Service—144; Youth Worship (11/16/11)—22.

Serving on Sunday, November 27, 2011: **Ushers**—Charlie Auman, Gene Coen, J.C. Lamm, Chris McDuffie; **Greeters**—Irene Aiken, Barbara Coble, Gene and Bonnie Barnes, Terry and Susan Brown; **2&3s**—Michele Ard; **Children's Church**—Bobbie Sue Ormsby; **Nursery**—TBA; **Sound**—Kenny Melvin; **Security**—John Ray; **Deacons of the Week**—Kenneth Robinette and Don Auman; **Wednesday Family Night 11/30/11**— Ham, 2 vegetables, drink, and dessert: \$5.00 plate, \$12.00 for a family of three or more.



11/28 George E. Crump, Jr.
 11/29 Hayley Kottwitz
 11/30 Boyd Taylor
 12/01 Sarah Auman
 12/02 Jackie Sherrill
 12/03 Virginia Auman



I hope each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends and that you were able to say, in some form, "Thank you, God." Thanks may not be easy or come natural for those who have experienced various kinds of losses or afflictions or troubles, but a thankful

heart is a powerful medicine itself which can heal wounds and calm a troubled heart. I read recently, "An optimist says, 'My cup is half-full.' A pessimist says, 'My cup is half-empty.' But a Christian says, 'My cup is overflowing!'" May we live daily realizing that through Jesus Christ our cups are truly overflowing!

One of the things for which we can give thanks is that this Sunday begins the Advent season—the Christmas season—a time of preparation as we personally and congregationally make ready for the coming of Christ. In order to be ready for Christmas, we at First Baptist are not only planning some exciting Sunday morning worship experiences, but also some additional special services which can enhance our Christmas celebrations.

During our Sunday morning services, our messages will include the following: "Joseph: Being Ready for Christmas;" "Herod: The Curse of Christmas;" "The Wise Men: Being Caught by a Vision;" "Mary and Joseph: Carrying Christmas into Life."

Also, our special services will include *Hanging of the Greens* service on December 4, at 6:30 pm; the presentation of *Messiah* by the combined choirs of the First Presbyterian Church, the First United Methodist Church, and the First Baptist Church on December 11, at 6:30 pm; *Christmas at First Baptist*, an informal time of worship and fellowship on December 18, at 6:00 pm; and our Christmas Eve Candle Light Communion service on December 24, at 5:00 pm. Of course, sprinkled throughout December will be foreign mission emphases and many opportunities to participate in numerous Christmas ministries.

Wow! The Christmas season is a busy time! While everyone can not possibly come to everything, I encourage you to come to those events and services which will speak to you and will help you to be prepared for His coming and which will enable you to truly worship at Christmas.

We begin our Advent journey this Sunday. See you then! Jim Nelson

Choir Notes



Join us on Sunday, December 4, for a special Christmas service, *Hanging of the Greens*, at 6:30 pm, in the sanctuary. Any service is extra-special when we involve our children and youth. Bonnie Barnes and the Sanctuary Decorating Committee always make our sanctuary

a beautiful place to visit during the holiday season.

The choir members have given their valuable time over the past Sundays to prepare special music. Be sure to show appreciation to them! Marjorie Hinson

Have You
Turned In Your
Estimate of Giving Card?

We have received estimates totaling only 52% of the proposed 2012 budget. Please turn in your Estimate of Giving as soon as possible! Thanks!



REHEARSALS:

November 27, 2011
4:00-5:30 pm

AND

November 30, 2011
6:30-7:30 pm



Mr. Clyde Jenkins

Anonymous
 Baraca Sunday School Class
 Mr. and Mrs. Russell Bennett
 Mr. Bronson Brim
 Ms. Cassandra Crump
 Mr. and Mrs. Lazelle Marks
 Ms. Isabel Pressley
 Ms. Faye Thomas

Mr. Jake Killian

Anonymous
 Mr. Bronson Brim

Mr. Harold Matthews

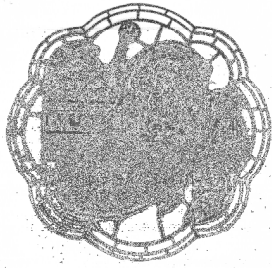
Anonymous
 Mr. Bronson Brim

Rev. Nash Odom

Anonymous

Mrs. Peggy Percival

Anonymous
 Mr. and Mrs. Lazelle Marks
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve Morris



HANDEL Messiah

The combined choirs of First Baptist Church, First United Methodist Church, and First Presbyterian Church will perform "Messiah" on December 11, 2011, 6:30 pm. Plan now to attend, and to be blessed by the beautiful voices filling our sanctuary!



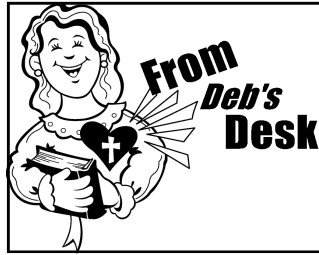
CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE December 3, 2011

Tithes & Gifts

Giving Summary	Week of	Nov
	Nov 20	MTD
Gen. Oper. Fund	4,048	20,458
Chall. to Maint.	400	750
Memorials & Hon.	200	1,135
Radio Ministry	—	800
Mission Trip	—	450
Fellowship Fund	50	346
Poinsettias	—	50
Total Gifts	4,748	23,989

General Fund Yr-to-Date Summary:	
Budget req. to date 2011	405,969
Actual gifts to date	332,920
YTD req. under actual gifts	(73,049)
% giving to req.	82%

Children and Youth



Don't Forget --- We are continuing to collect printer cartridges for recycling.

PRAY for our Troops and their Families!

Last week, in Youth Worship, I shared a lesson from, "A 40-Day Prayer Guide for Revival and Spiritual Awakening." (A *Your Life Matters* resource of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.) The Day 2 lesson is entitled, "Long for the Presence of God."

A condensed version of the lesson goes like this:

After many worship services, people will often say, "God was here today." So, how can we know for certain? How can we "test" for the presence of God in our church fellowship?

The author says...Things happen. People change. God's presence accomplishes something in our lives. For example:

- *You will have a sense of awe (Revelation 1:17)
- *You will have a sense of His love (Ephesians 3:17-19)
- *You will have a crushing awareness of your own sinfulness (Isaiah 6:1-5)
- *You will have a deep desire to confess your sin and make things right with others (Luke 3:8-14)
- *You will begin to share His heart for a broken and lost world (Luke 9:36-38).

Will you join me in praying the author's prayer: *Father, I want to know what it is to be in Your presence on this side of heaven.* Debbie Holloway



CONGRATS students!
Many of our children and youth are accomplishing scholastic goals. Congratulations!



Poinsettias for Christmas



If you would like to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary this Christmas in honor of, or in memory of, someone special, please fill out this request form and return it to the church office by December 9, 2011. The cost this year is \$12.00 each. You may pick up your poinsettia(s) at the end of the Christmas Eve Communion Service.

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____



The Richmond County Council on Aging has provided the church with approximately forty names of eligible recipients of White Christmas bags. This year's grocery list includes: 1 jar of peanut butter; 1 jar of jelly; 1 can of meat; suggestions are spaghetti sauce, tuna, salmon, canned chicken, chili, stews, soups (please do not send items that need refrigeration); 1 can of green vegetables: string beans, collards, turnip greens, asparagus, okra, etc.; 1 can of starchy vegetables: peas, corn, carrots, limas, potatoes, yams, etc.; 1 can of beans: baked beans, pinto, navy, kidney, etc.; 2 cans/single packages of fruit: applesauce, mixed fruit, peaches, pears, raisins, prunes, etc.; 1 box of muffin mix; 1 box of pasta/noodles; 1 box rice.

Grocery bags, with lists attached, are available at the church to assist you with your shopping. Please return your bags by Friday, December 16. Delivery will be on Sunday, December 18, following the morning worship service. Thank you for your help with this ministry.



Senior Adult Christmas Party
December 3, 2011
5:00 pm
\$150

Please RSVP to Cathy McDuffie, 997-6572.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, November 27

First Sunday in Advent	
Prayer Time	9:00 am
Praise Singing in E-100	9:30 am
Sunday School	9:45 am
Radio Broadcast on G-104 FM	10:45 am
Morning Worship	11:00 am
Morrison Worship Service	3:00 pm
Signing Team	3:15 pm
Rehearsal/Hanging of the Greens	4:00-5:30 pm
Praise Team Rehearsal	4:00 pm
Children/Youth Activities/Bible Study	4:30 pm

Tuesday, November 29

Terrific Tuesday	3:15-5:15 pm
Morrison Ministry (Yokefellow)	7:00 pm
WOM Group #3/Women of the Bible	7:30 pm

Wednesday, November 30

Wednesday Family Night Activities

* * * WEDNESDAY * NIGHT * FAMILY NIGHT	Supper	5:45pm
	Adult Prayer Meeting	6:30pm
	Children/Youth Activities	6:30pm
	Cub Scouts	6:30pm
	Adult Choir	7:30 pm

Cub Scouts	6:30 pm
Rehearsal/Hanging of the Greens	6:30-7:30 pm

Saturday, December 3

Christmas on the Square	
Senior Adult Christmas Party	5:00 pm

RADIO SPONSORS: If you can't be present in the sanctuary for the worship service, listen to the broadcast on WJSG, G-104 on your FM dial. The following area businesses sponsor the broadcast: Crump Realty, Jenkins Automotive and Industrial Supply, Medical Center Pharmacy, Moss Brothers Tire and Service, Carter Funeral Home, and Dr. Kevin Aiken.



The First Baptist Informer

Published Weekly by:
 The First Baptist Church
 of Rockingham
 201 N. Randolph St.
 Rockingham, N. C. 28379
 (910) 895-4016 * Fax (910) 895-1773
 www.fbcrockingham.org

**NONPROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 ROCKINGHAM, NC
 PERMIT NO. 35**

Address Service Requested

Dr. James J. Nelson, Senior Pastor
 drjimmnelson@yahoo.com

Lynda Clifton, Financial Secretary
 lynda@fbcrockingham.org

Marjorie Hinson, Organist/Choir Director
 mheightyeight@roadrunner.com

Debbie Holloway, Associate Pastor
 for Children & Youth
 dholloway4@carolina.rr.com

Chris McEntire, Director of Accounting
 cmcentire@carolina.rr.com

Daniel Short, Custodian

Anne Tyson, Administrative Assistant