

# The First Baptist Informer Rockingham, North Carolina

**“To know Christ and make Him known.”**

**Volume XXXIV \* Number 48 \* December 11, 2011 through December 17, 2011**

*The Combined Choirs of  
First Baptist Church  
First Methodist Church  
First Presbyterian Church  
and  
Trinity Music Academy  
Orchestra*

*present*

## *Handel's Messiah*

*December 11, 2011*

*6:30 pm*

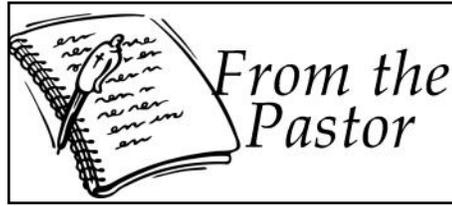


**Resource Recording Team, Monday, December 12, 2011:** Joanne Cadieu and Dale Ormsby; **Attendance Report, December 4, 2011:** Sunday School—91; Worship Service—134.

**Serving on Sunday, December 11, 2011:** **Ushers**—Charlie Auman, Gene Coen, J.C. Lamm, Chris McDuffie; **Greeters**—Irene Aiken, Virginia Cole, Jean Woodall, John and Beth Ray, Robert and Nora Smith; **2&3s**—Linda Teal; **Children's Church**—Steve McIver; **Nursery**—Cynthia Morris; **Sound**—Sam Brigman; **Security**—Dennis Teal; **Deacons of the Week**—Dale Ormsby and Marjorie Rainey; **Wednesday Family Night 12/14/11**—Chicken Pot Pie, drink, and dessert: \$5.00 plate, \$12.00 for a family of three or more.



12/11 Phila Williams  
12/11 Jeff Aiken  
12/12 Leah Melvin  
12/13 Gene Barnes  
12/16 Marjorie Hinson  
12/16 Susan Wheeler



Well, the “Greens” were hung again this past Sunday night before a good crowd of worshippers. It was a well-done, informative, and worshipful experience. Special thanks goes to Marjorie Hinson and all her team, including the decorators, the readers, the children, the choir, the signers, and the sound and lighting helpers!

Good job!

Have you ever heard the expression, “keeping Christmas?” According to Kirk Nealy, Charles Dickens used the expression at the conclusion of his story, A Christmas Carol, when it was said of Ebenezer Scrooge that “he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge.”

But what does “keeping Christmas” really mean? Beyond the routine Christmas activities such as decorating, shopping, attending parties and preparing food for family gatherings, “keeping Christmas” means to remember the main event; to marvel at the miracle of Christmas; to worship the Christ Child; and to be involved in gracious acts of compassion. Christmas is the season of giving. Even as God gave His Son, to meet the greatest need in our lives, we should also give lovingly and willingly whatever is needed to meet the needs of others. This is the lesson Ebenezer Scrooge had to learn in A Christmas Carol. So, what does it mean to “keep Christmas?” That question is answered in the following poem by Henry Van Dyke.

### White Christmas Bags



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.

### *Are you willing:*

- \*to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you;
- \*to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world;
- \*to see that men and women are just as real as you are, and try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy;
- \*to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness?

### *Are you willing:*

- \*to stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children;
- \*to remember the weakness and loneliness of people growing old;
- \*to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough;
- \*to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear in their hearts;
- \*to try to understand what those who live in the same home with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you;
- \*to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke;
- \*to make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden for your kindly feelings?

### *Are you willing:*

- \*to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world - stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death -
- \*and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem...is the image and brightness of the eternal love?

Under God, through His Spirit, let us seek to “keep Christmas!” See you on Sunday! Jim Nelson



**Mr. Charles Fincher**  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ormsby

**Mr. Clyde Jenkins**  
Mrs. Kathy Griffis  
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Spencer

**Mr. Jake Killian**  
Mrs. Kathy Griffis

**Mr. Harold Matthews**  
Mrs. Kathy Griffis

**Rev. Nash Odom**  
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Spencer

**Mr. Buddy York**  
Mrs. Kathy Griffis  
Mr. and Mrs. Steve McIver



You are invited to hear the Christmas Story rung by the Sandhills Ringers at their Christmas concert on Saturday, December 10, at 4:00 pm. The handbell choir, composed of ringers from Rockingham and Hamlet, is directed by Judy Harris. The L.J. Bell Elementary School chorus will join the Sandhills Ringers for two selections. The concert will be held in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, 904 Fayetteville Road, Rockingham.



**FBC Blood Drive**  
**December 19, 2011**  
**3:30-7:30 pm**



	Week of	Nov
Giving Summary	<b>Dec 4</b>	<b>MTD</b>
Gen. Oper. Fund	9,149	25,955
Chall. to Maint.	—	1,200
Memorials & Hon.	95	1,465
Radio Ministry	—	800
Christmas Missions	1,105	—
Mission Trip	—	450
Fellowship Fund	—	346
Poinsettias	—	50
<b>Total Gifts</b>	<b>10,349</b>	<b>30,266</b>

**General Fund Yr-to-Date Summary:**

Budget req. to date 2011	423,244
Actual gifts to date	347,661
YTD req. under actual gifts	(75,583)
% giving to req.	82%

## Choir Notes



Some facts on G.F. Handel and his *Messiah*: The *Messiah*, which is based on scripture, is one of Handel's most successful and best-known oratorios. It was composed in 1741 in just twenty-four days. Handel, upon reading these scriptures from the Old and New Testaments, was overcome by their power. He shut himself in and worked night and day, often forgetting to eat. He was buried in Westminster Abbey in 1759. His tomb reads, "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth." Marjorie Hinson

## Children and Youth



It is hard to believe that we are quickly facing the end of 2011. As I look over the December calendar of Children and Youth activities, I see: the last Terrific Tuesday this week; the last Wednesday night Cub Scouts, Youth Worship & Children in Action; and the Children and Youth Christmas parties coming up next week. The last two weeks of 2011 offer several family-friendly events such as Christmas at First Baptist, Christmas Eve Communion, and a Christmas Morning Worship Service. My prayer is that our Children & Youth, and their families, will spend quality time together as a family and take the time to remember, together, the true meaning of Christmas--the Christ Child.

**FBC Children's Christmas Party, Saturday, December 17, 4:00-7:00 pm:** All FBC family children, through grade six, are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, games, food, and fellowship.

**Youth Christmas Party, Friday, December 16, 6:00-11:00 pm:** All FBC family youth, 7-12 grade, are invited to a fun evening of food and fellowship. The youth will cook a progressive mystery meal. You might be asking how they can do that here at the church. Well, they will be divided into three groups and will have an adult chaperone in each group. Each group will prepare a separate section of the meal in the three kitchens of the church and Butler Youth house. The groups will travel from one eating area to the next enjoying great food and fun activities.

**Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal and Christmas Program, Wednesday, December 14, 5:45 pm:** Come join us for the regular Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal and stay for the Christmas program (beginning at 6:30 pm) offered by the Children and Youth groups. Everyone is invited! Debbie Holloway

## Angel Tree



THE ANGEL TREE

For \$35.00 you can sponsor a needy child for Christmas. We have 37 students from seven Rockingham area schools that need our help this year. Your gift of \$35.00 will buy a school uniform (pants and shirt) and a \$10.00 gift for a child. School counselors and social workers will buy the items for each child. Please turn in your money to the church office by December 11.

To cut the cost, you and a friend may go in together, or do this as a Sunday School project. If you have any questions, you may call Bess Shuler at 410-0655.

Thank you for making a difference in the life of a child this Christmas. Happy Holidays!

## Christmas Equals Missions



God sent His Son on a mission of redemption to seek and save that which was lost. He came and died to purchase our salvation. He fulfilled His mission. Now, as Paul said in 2 Corinthians, we have been given the message and ministry of reconciliation. We are ambassadors of Christ. In other words, today we are on a mission. So let's not neglect our responsibility to pray for our missionaries and field personnel, and support their ministry.

Give to our foreign missions offerings through the Global Mission Offering of the CBF or the Lottie Moon Offering of the SBC. Let us be faithful to our task!

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, December 11

Third 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
Handel's Messiah/FBC Sanctuary	6:30 pm

### Monday, December 12

WOM Group #2	10:00 am
Backpack Pals	5:30-7:30 pm

### Tuesday, December 13

Terrific Tuesday Workers Luncheon & Planning	1:00 pm
Morrison Ministry (Yokefellow)	7:00 pm
WOM Group #3/ <i>Women of the Bible</i>	7:30 pm

### Wednesday, December 14

Wednesday Family Night Christmas Party	5:45 pm
Cub Scouts	6:30 pm

### Friday, December 16

Youth Christmas Party	6:00-11:00 pm
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### Saturday, December 17

Children's Christmas Party/E100	4:00-6:00 pm
Lewis Sunday School Christmas Party/S150	6:00 pm



### 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 12, 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**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**

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