



W THE WINDOW

A publication of The First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, North Carolina

Volume 50

November 22, 2017

No. 22

Pastor's First Christmas

I am nearing the completion of my first year with First Baptist. Therefore, it has been a year of firsts for this pastor and congregation. We have experienced our first communion together; our first budget together; our first baptism together; our first trunk or treat together; our first funeral together; our first picnic at the park together; our first Easter together; and now we approach our first Advent together. As we do so, I do so with high expectations.

Though you may have experienced Advent at First Baptist many times, and therefore know better than I what to expect, I hope that your expectations are high as well. Furthermore, my prayer is that we will do everything possible to hold on to worship on Sunday mornings. Perhaps, we will need to resist the temptation to go shopping during this time. If we arrive home late from a Saturday evening Christmas party, we may need to push ourselves a bit to be in church the next morning. In other words, let's fight, if necessary, in order to take our place at First Baptist during Advent.

As your pastor, I exhort us in this manner for a couple of reasons. One, like most ministers, I find well-attended worship services most encouraging. You may be interested to know that since August (when we started keeping track), we have averaged 155 people in worship. This average includes a nice handful of Sundays with attendance in the 170s and 180s. It would please me to see these numbers maintained or even elevated throughout December.

More important, however, is the second reason. For many years now, I have viewed worship as a bridge in a rainstorm. While driving in heavy rain, a bridge provides relief from the storm. It lasts just for a second. However, when we pass under a



Worshiping Together

November 26, 2017

11:00 am

Christ the King Sunday

It Matters - Really, It Does

Matthew 25:31-46

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

Worship Choir: The Sanctuary Choir

bridge, the struggle to see eases and the needed effort to concentrate lessens. The relief is brief but ever so refreshing.

We are an especially busy people during the Christmas season. There are gifts to buy and wrap. There are family gatherings. There are work parties. There are church parties. There is the party at the Gilliams' house on December 10! Furthermore, as Christians we often experience anxiety over the secularization of Christmas in American society. Do we (of all people) lose sight of the meaning of the season because of the hustle and the bustle?

Each Sunday, your church staff plans diligently to provide a bridge in a rainstorm – a brief period of refreshing respite from the daily grind. We need this throughout the year. Perhaps, however, the need is greater at Christmas.

In Christ,
Trey

You're Invited

Sun., Dec. 10 • 3:00 pm until ...

Desserts and Coffee

at the home of

Trey, Lou Ann, & Matty Grace Gilliam

620 Lakeview Drive, Murfreesboro





Christmas at Main & West



December 3

Hope

First Sunday of Advent

The Music Friends (ages 3-5) and Children Choristers (grades 1-6) will be sharing their Christmas music during the 11:00 worship service.

December 10

Peace

Second Sunday of Advent

Chairo will be sharing their Christmas music during the 11:00 worship service.

December 6

First Wednesday

6:00 pm Fellowship Meal

7:15 pm Carols & Classics

led by

**Buddy Hyatt, Organist
& Guests**

•The Menu

Various Soups, Salad, Bread, & Dessert

•Cost

\$6 per adult, \$3 per child 12 & under, \$15 max per family. Sign-up by 5:00 pm Mon., Dec. 4.

Katherine Allen has published the second in her "Gloves" series of children's books, *Mi Amigo Gloves*. She will have books for sale (\$20) and will be signing them in the first floor hallway.

December 17

Joy

Third Sunday of Advent

7:00 pm

The Christmas Choir and Instrumentalists
present

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

by Hal H. Hopson

Christmas Cookie Fellowship to Follow

December 24

Love

Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm

Christmas Eve Worship



Christian Women's Job Corps Has Need Of The Following



- Clothes: Casual & Dress
- Pocketbooks
- Shoes
- Sets of Dishes
- Flatware/Utensils
- Any Household Items

As you clean out closets, storage areas, etc., please remember that someone else is in need of your unwanted or unneeded items. Thanks for your help with this ministry. Contact Pat Byrd, CWJC Director, for more information.



November 19 , 2017

Weekly Need	\$ 8,778.00
Weekly Offering	\$ 13,083.00
Difference	\$ 4,305.00
YTD Needs	\$ 412,566.00
YTD Offerings	\$ 379,328.81
YTD Difference	\$ -33,237.19
Bapt. Children's Homes to Date	\$ 173.00
Capital Campaign to Date	\$ 344,655.53

Thank you for your generous gifts!

December

First Baptist Church • 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday 9:45a Sunday School 11:00a Worship	Every Monday 2:00p Staff Meeting		Every Wednesday 5:00p Children's Music & Missions 7:00p Sanctuary Choir 8:00p Vocal Ensemble		1 •9a Christian Women's Job Corps	2
3 1st Sunday of Advent •11a Communion •4p Chairo •5p Christmas Choir & Bells •6p Christmas Handbells	4	5 •10a WOM Grps 2 & 4 •7p WOM Grp 3	6 •6p Fellowship Meal •7:15p Carols & Classics Concert	7 •1p WOM Gp. 5	8 •9a CWJC	9
10 2nd Sunday of Advent •3p The Gilliam's Open House •4:30p Christmas Cantata Reh.	11	12	13 •5p Children's Birthday Party for Jesus •6p Reformation Study •7:00p Christmas Cantata Rehearsal	14	15 •11a FH Reserved •3p CWJC Graduation •4p Daniels/Thompson Wedding Rehearsal	16 •4p Daniels/Thompson Wedding
17 3rd Sunday of Advent •4p Instrumental Rehearsal •5p Cantata Reh. •6:15p Choir Snack Supper •7p Christmas Cantata	18 •7p Building & Grounds	19 •6p Missions Committee •7p Deacons' Meeting	20 •No Children's Music & Missions •6p Reformation Study •No Rehearsals	21	22	23
24 4th Sunday of Advent •5:00p Christmas Eve Worship	25 Christmas •11a OIAM Lunch	26	27	28	29	30
31	Church Offices Closed for Christmas Holidays			BELOVED COMMUNITY CBF Offering for Global Missions will be received Sunday, Dec. 10		



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|--|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Nancy Outlaw
Tim Frei | 3 Elizabeth Joyner | 9 Lucy Pierce | 20 Elizabeth Davis |
| 2 John C. Jones
Eunice Sellars
Tara Fowler | 4 Gayle Cross
Barbara Earley
Monte Thompson | 12 Elizabeth Mizelle | 21 Jordan Martin |
| 3 Chip Rose | 6 Lisa Outlaw | 15 Olivia Parker | 23 Tiffany Warren |
| | 7 Jamie Burns | 16 Brenda Jones | 26 Carolyn Goss |
| | 8 Eddie Joyner
Dempsey Pierce | 17 Don Joyner
Macy Roberts | 29 Charles Freeman
Jimmy Bracy |
| | 9 Bland Baker | 18 William Leary Sr.
Judd Byrd | 30 Bill Magette |
| | 9 Cecelia Bracy | 19 Amanda Henderson | 31 Georgia Copeland |
| | | 20 Linda Alexander | |

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of November 26-December 2

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Chip Rose, 287-7827

Jamie Burns, 332-7583

Extended Session—November 26

Birth-Age 2: Georgia Copeland, Scott &
Lisa Outlaw

Ages 3-5: Susan Copeland & J. C. Doughtie

Ushers—November 26

Carolyn Arrington, Elijah Brown, Mollee Frei
Lamm, Chip Rose, Lee Wilson, Justice Zoch;
Balcony— Keith Rawls & Isabella Woodard

Sound System—November 26

Frank Britt

Floral Offering—November 26

Penny & Frank Rose

Home Delivered Meals—November 27

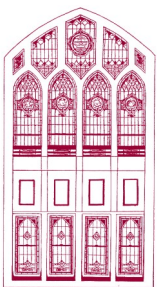
Penny & Frank Rose

Food Pantry—December 1

Sandra Pierce

To Thank You . . .

Notes of thanks and appreciation have been received from Chowan University, Baptist Children's Homes of NC, Easter Seals/UCP, Carroll Thompson, and Rev. Lane Bass. These notes may be found on the bulletin board next to the church office.



The Window

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

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Office Hours:

8:00 am -5:00 pm Monday-Thursday

Office Closed on Friday

Week of December 3-9

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Austine Evans, 332-5280

Charles Hughes, 287-8403

Extended Session—December 3

Birth-Age 2: Jenni Byrd, Betty Cooper,
& Cheryl Slachta

Ages 3-5: Nancy Perry & Mary Page Pierce

Ushers—December 3

Jamie Burns, Lee Byrum, Debbie Greene,
Bill Magette, Camille Pierce, Fletcher Pierce;
Balcony— Larry Freeman & Keith Rawls

Sound System—December 3

James Early

Floral Offering—December 3

Worship Decorating Committee

Home Delivered Meals—December 4

Gloria & Charles Freeman

Food Pantry—December 8

Rose Blowe & Virgia Nichols

Sunday School at Creekside—December 3

Bess Leary

NON PROFIT ORG.
BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
AHOSKIE, N. C.
PERMIT NO. 64

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED