

# This Week @ FBC

## Sunday, December 13

8am Deacons' Meeting  
9:30am Sunday Bible Study  
10:55am "Come & Behold Him" Music Celebration  
5pm Christmas Family Night @ The Point

## Monday, December 14

10:30am Joyful Praise Choir @ Standifer Place

## Tuesday, December 15

7pm CDC Preschool Christmas Night

## Wednesday, December 16

5pm Wednesday Evening Meal  
*Christmas Menu: Ham, potato casserole, green beans, pineapple casserole, bread & desserts*

6pm Bible Study (Galatians)

Caroling Night (All are welcome)

6:15pm Worship Orchestra Rehearsal

6:30pm Business Meeting

7:15pm Worship Choir Rehearsal

**Mark Your Calendars for  
Christmas Eve By Candlelight  
12.24.15 @ 10:45pm**

Find more info online at [www.fbcfo.org](http://www.fbcfo.org)

## Our Volunteers

### Deacons of the Week

Dec 13-19

Ray Cox  
Cathy Cox  
Wayne Rasbury

Dec 20-26

Ron Mullins  
Jeanette Dupree  
Jeff Scott

### Wednesday Meal

Dec 16

Priscilla Pennington  
Terry Pennington  
Olene Hendricks  
Sandra Mullins

Dec 30

Nancy Smith  
Charles Helton  
Brenda Jones

### Security

Dec 13-19

Wayne Honeycutt  
Ken Lee

Dec 20-26

Bimol Poole  
Eddy Trotter

### Greeters

Dec 13

Kaye Swafford  
Sue Overlin  
Marlin Paulson

Dec 20

Laurie Brown  
Elaine Steele  
Dolores Tant

### Extended Session

#### Sunday, Dec 13

Babies Louise Stinnett  
Jenny Pitts  
1&2 yr olds Drew Todaro  
Ron Mullins  
3 yr olds Sandra Mullins

#### Next Sunday, Dec 20

Babies Joyce Rogers  
Lora Ogden  
1&2 yr olds David White  
Drew Todaro  
3 yr olds Nichole Stookey  
Brittany Stone

## Prayer Concerns

### Hospital

Joanne Ezell  
Stewart  
Louis Clark

### Home

Leann  
Alexander  
Laura Jones  
Raymond  
Dupree  
Ken & Betty  
Goodner  
Wayne  
Carpenter

Ronnie Hixon  
Brynna  
Humphrey  
Taime Imler  
Winona Lewis  
Lamar Elrod  
June Stewart  
Tressie Fletcher  
Odell Culver  
Nell Smith  
Linda Sikes  
Robin Ellis  
Beth Daugherty  
Dale & Dolores  
Kinnison

Mary Alkire  
Larry Hutcheson  
John Messina  
Wiley & Helen  
Epperson  
Janice Knauff

### Nursing Home

Aline Hannah  
Joyce Herston  
Norma Carpenter  
Eva Williams  
Eunice Mosman  
Ruth Graham  
Eloise Morris  
Myrtle Thomas  
Lila Archer  
C. H. Tindall

## Birthdays

Hannah Gillespie (13)  
Jamie Ogden (13)  
Luther Nicholson (14)  
Sue Overlin (14)  
Carla Wyatt (14)  
Margaret Box (15)

Matthew Fitzpatrick (17)  
Cindy Shipp (17)  
Mike LaRoche (17)  
Jackson Lewis (19)  
Kerry Pennington (20)

## Staff

Pastor - Jason Thomas  
Worship Pastor - Brad Lewis  
Discipleship Pastor - Andy Atkinson  
Youth Director - Kevin Stone  
Children Director - Nichole Stookey  
Administrative Assistant - Miki Ingram  
Education Assistant - Sandra Mullins

[jasont@fbcfo.org](mailto:jasont@fbcfo.org)  
[bradl@fbcfo.org](mailto:bradl@fbcfo.org)  
[andya@fbcfo.org](mailto:andya@fbcfo.org)  
[kevins@fbcfo.org](mailto:kevins@fbcfo.org)  
[nicholes@fbcfo.org](mailto:nicholes@fbcfo.org)  
[miki@fbcfo.org](mailto:miki@fbcfo.org)  
[sandram@fbcfo.org](mailto:sandram@fbcfo.org)

2645 Lafayette Road - P.O. Box 2125  
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742  
Office: 706.866.0232  
[www.fbcfo.org](http://www.fbcfo.org)



**find us on social media**  
**Pastoral Emergency Line**  
(423) 708-5303

Christ Chapel  
Crackers

### Christian Sympathy

Our church family extends its heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Eric & Vicki Shaw and the entire Shaw family on receiving news that Eric's mother has died. Eric is a former staff member and dear friend of our church family.



# First Baptist Church

Where Truth and Love come together

[www.fbcfo.org](http://www.fbcfo.org)

## Upcoming Events

### Launchpad Is Waiting for You

The time has come for you to act! Sign up online or at the welcome desk today! Launchpad will begin in the new year. It is just 3 Sundays of service for the entire 2016!!! There is no easier way to invest in the lives of our children @ FBCFO! **Please do not ignore the privilege and responsibility you have for this next generation!** See Pastor Andy or Nichole for more information and sign up for the free Launchpad lunch scheduled for Sunday, 1/10/16. Sign up at the Welcome Desk this Sunday.

### Community Christmas Dinner

There is no better way to begin the Christmas season than with our annual Community Christmas Dinner this Saturday. Our goal is to serve over 1,700 free meals to people all around the North Georgia community. We need your help with packaging and deliveries all day long.

### "Come & Behold Him!"

Our Worship Choir & Orchestra invite you to our Christmas music celebration this Sunday morning at 10:55am. This year we will "Come & Behold Him," and experience a powerful hour of worship and gospel celebration through music and narration. Invite your friends and neighbors to be our guests!

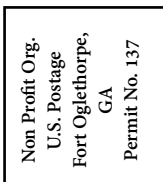
### Christmas Family Night

Join us this Sunday night from 5 to 7pm as our children lead us in our annual Christmas Family Night. You will experience first hand what our children have been doing with music and worship both at The Point and on Wednesday nights. Bring your favorite finger food and stick around for a special visit from the "Big Guy" in the red suit. Bring the entire family, visitors, & special guests.

### Lottie Moon Offering

Our Goal: \$ 16,500  
Received: \$ 2,692

## Dec. 9-Dec. 16



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

First Baptist Church  
2645 Lafayette Road  
P.O. Box 2125  
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742



# Word From Our Pastor

Jason Thomas

If you are looking for something that will get you in the “Christmas Spirit” this season, we have the perfect solution for you. Join us this Saturday for our annual Community Christmas Dinner.

Whether you are cooking, packaging, delivering, or cleaning, this dinner is a special opportunity to serve others who are in need.

Remember the word that Moses shared in the Old Testament, “**If there is a poor man among your brothers in any of the towns of the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward your**

**brother. Rather be openhanded and freely lend him whatever he needs (Deut. 15:7-8).** We will see these verses lived out to the glory of God this Saturday, followed by our music celebration on Sunday morning and Family Night on Sunday night.

On a separate note, God tells us in Galatians 5:1 that, “**It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.**” I believe that God will lead us to be free from our building debt if we dare to dream what we can be once this debt is behind us. As we approach a new year, the time has come for us to “**declare war**” on this debt and prayerfully seek the Lord to lead us into a new season of financial freedom. Join me in praying over Galatians 5:1 with a new freedom in mind. See you this Sunday after a week in His harvest field! -Jason

## The Sunday Report

Bible Study Attendance 229  
11 am Worship Attendance 256

Annual Budget 549,050.20  
YTD Budget Needs 517,374.23  
YTD Budget Giving 499,434.09

### This Sunday's Message:

“Come & Behold Him!”  
*Worship Choir & Orchestra  
Christmas Special*

### Next Sunday's Message:

Christmas Celebration  
Continues

Total Receipts for the Week: 18,471.07  
Weekly Budget Giving 12,797.22  
Weekly Legacy Giving 1,782.49  
Weekly Missions Giving 3,038.36

## Announcements

### Can You Help?

The Stepping Stones Class is collecting items for the Chattanooga Rescue Mission. The last day for donations is Sunday, Dec. 13. They are asking for new items specifically for this Christmas list. If anyone wants to donate gently used items, they can be included as separate items. Take all donations to their classroom.

### Keenagers

We have a limited number of nuts on sale to benefit the Keenagers. If you have not yet purchased any, they make wonderful gifts for the holidays! Contact Rena Honeycutt for more information!

### Legacy Gifts

If you or anyone you know are looking for a way to share financially before the end of the year, consider making a special gift to our Legacy Building Fund. All gifts go straight to principle, are tax deductible, and move us one step closer to being debt free. Share this opportunity with all your friends on Twitter and Facebook.

# Discipleship

**No amount of activity for God will ever take the place of a heart that is right with Him.** Throughout history, God's people have been fooling themselves, thinking they could please Him through their service and their offerings, regardless of their heart condition. In 1 Samuel 15, Saul offered generous sacrifices hoping God would overlook his disobedience without addressing his heart. In Acts 5, Ananias and Sapphira thought that their gift to the church would compensate for their deceitfulness. God knows the difference.

The Apostle Paul was in the same boat and thought his zealousness would please God as he killed Christians. After his conversion however, he realized that even if he had faith to remove mountains, gave all he had to feed the poor, and offered his body to be burned

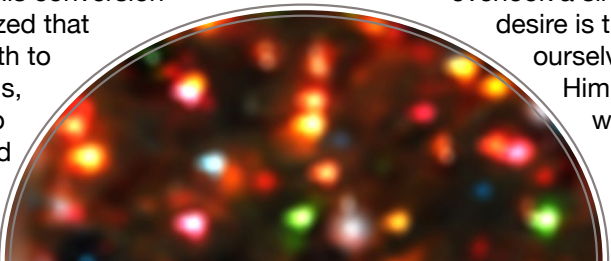
## Andy Atkinson

for the sake of God, and yet had a heart that was not right with God, it would all be for nothing (1 Cor. 13:1-3).

We are susceptible to the same misunderstanding as all of these people were. We can be deceived into assuming God is more interested in our activity for Him than He is in the condition of our hearts. God has consistently made it clear that He will not be appeased by even the most generous offerings and zealous service if our hearts are not right with Him (See Micah 6:6-8). No matter how much we do in God's service, regardless of how active we are in church, no matter how honorable our reputation is in the

Christian community, He will not overlook a sinful heart. His desire is that we devote ourselves to knowing Him and loving Him with all of our heart.

-Andy



## Youth Spotlight

### Kevin Stone

“**And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.” Luke 2:10**

**Camp deposit** - Catch up on your summer camp deposits: \$25 was due in October and \$25 was due Dec. 1.

**Volunteers** - We are in need of adult volunteers to invest in the lives of our students, especially if you can help on

Wednesday evenings! If you feel God is leading you in this direction, contact Kevin Stone as we begin planning ministry for the New Year!

**Community Christmas Dinner** - Next Saturday, Dec. 12. This is a church-wide, family event. Our students are encouraged to be here by 9 am and help throughout the day.

## Children's Headlines

### Nichole Stookey

"**They will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"** Matthew 1:23

**Family Christmas Night:** Join us this Sunday evening from 5pm-7pm! The children have been working hard for many weeks on Christmas music to present to you. We also want to show you how we worship @ The Point! We

have some surprises in store so, make plans to attend this special night of worship with us!

The Christmas Skating Party was a ton of fun and I appreciate everyone coming out to celebrate with us! The children and adults all had a blast!

# Worship & More...

## Brad Lewis

**It truly is the most wonderful time of the year!** I don't know about you, but I love the Christmas season. Not for the gifts, the decorations, the music, or the food... No, I love this time of year because we celebrate the coming of Emmanuel: God with us!

I hope your focus at Christmas is also on the Presence of God, Christ among us. I hope you find a way to intentionally steer events, activities, and conversations toward the celebration of God choosing to become flesh and dwell among men. I hope that everything you do will celebrate the Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord!

This Sunday we will have a great opportunity to do that very thing: Celebrate the birth of our Savior, as our Orchestra and Choir present ***Come and Behold Him***. Please don't see this as just another Sunday, but rather see it as an opportunity to gather and worship, as well as a perfect time to invite

friends to hear the Gospel in the Christmas story.

Know that our Worship Ministry is purposeful in all that we do: To create an atmosphere where the Presence of God is strong, and to draw people who do not Know Jesus into the Kingdom. That is what this Sunday (and every Sunday) is about.

Invite friends this Sunday. Come prepared to worship and not just receive. Make this Sunday part of the most wonderful time of the year! ***Worship Well!***

-Brad



## Community Christmas Dinner

Our Community Christmas Dinner will be this Saturday, Dec. 12, and we need your help. Bring desserts that do not have to be refrigerated this Friday, Dec. 11 after 5 pm to the Fellowship Circle. We also need volunteer after 5 on Friday to help set up and volunteers all day on Saturday, starting at 7am, for a

variety of fun tasks. Contact Kevin Stone for more information.

## Christmas Eve By Candlelight Service

This Christmas Eve, we will continue a special community tradition of our Christmas Eve by Candlelight. Invite your friends and neighbors to this special time of music and celebration in which we

worship together and ring in Christmas Day by candlelight. The music will begin at 10:45pm.

## Christmas Family Night @ The Point

Our annual ***Christmas Family Night*** will be a chance for you to experience what we do @ The Point. Our kids are working on Christmas music and will be leading us in a special worship celebration

for the entire family. Don't miss the music, fun, and food this Sunday @ 5pm.

**Bring your favorite finger foods!**