

This Week @ FBC

Sunday, December 16

9:30 am Bible Study Groups & Classes
10:50 am Morning Worship Celebration
Kids' Worship @ The Point
5 pm Family Christmas Party
at the Fort O Skate World
(No Service on Campus)

Wednesday, December 19

5 pm Wednesday Evening Meal
Ham Green Beans Scalloped Potatoes
Bread Dessert
6 pm Group Bible Studies
Kids' Clubhouse Friends
One-80 Student Worship
6 pm Worship Choir & Orchestra
Dress Rehearsal
6:30 pm Pastor's Prayer Service

Find more info online at fbcfo.org

Our Volunteers

Deacons of the Week

Dec. 16-22
Joyce Rogers
Ray Cox
Scott O'Steen

Dec. 23-29
Jean Stone
Linda Daniels
Paul Overlin

Wednesday Meal

Dec. 19
Donnie Lindsay
Donna Lindsay
Brenda Jones
Jean Stone

Dec. 26
No Evening Activities

Security

Dec. 16-22
Shannon Born
Ken Lee

Dec. 23-29
Tracy Smith
Wayne Daniels

Greeters

Dec. 16
Cindy Shipp
Joyce Rogers
Elaine Steele

Dec. 23
Jeff Wells
Carrie Wells
Brenda Jones

Sunday, Dec. 16 LaunchPad

Babies
1&2 yr olds
3 yr olds
Welcome

Holly Randall
Rob Randall
Cheryl McCurdy
Amber White
Jane Hogsed
Laura Jones
Preble McDaniel

Next Sunday, Dec. 23

Babies
1&2 yr olds
3 yr olds
Welcome

Brenda Lynch
Madison Stookey
Debra Stone
Mackie Yatooma
Pam Bethune
Deborah Gray
Tiffani Brady

Prayer Concerns

Hospital
Vera Thomas
Amber Walker

Home
Louise Stinnett
Ray Bell
Louise Crane
Louise Pendley
Casey Rowland
Kevin McCurdy
Nell Smith
Jane Hogsed
Steve Rosser
Larry & Cindy

Shipp
JoAnn Davis
Jeanne Clark
Beth Daughtery
Trey Baldwin
Dawn Emous
Pat Medearis
Jerry Gann
Angela Gann
Wayne Honeycutt
Ruth & Brian Wagoner
Tommie Brock
Betty Phillips

Helen Epperson
Mary Lou Brown
Ken & Betty Goodner
John Stewart

Assisted Care
Sharon Mullins
Lila Archer
Bertha Pennington
Joetta Roderick
Lila Archer

Dale Kinnison
Eunice Mosman
Norma Carpenter
Robbie Fletcher
Glenda Duncan

Birthdays

Cindy Shipp (17th)
Kerry Pennington (20th)
Laura Leath (22nd)

Staff

Pastor - Jason Thomas
Worship Pastor - Brad Lewis
Discipleship Pastor - Andy Atkinson
Student Pastor - Patrick Everett
Children Minister - Nichole Stookey
Administrative Assistant - Miki Ingram
Education Assistant - Sandra Mullins
Treasurer - Darlene Lane

jasont@fbcfo.org
bradl@fbcfo.org
andya@fbcfo.org
patrick@fbcfo.org
nicholes@fbcfo.org
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sandram@fbcfo.org
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2645 Lafayette Road - P.O. Box 2125
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742
Office: 706.866.0232
www.fbcfo.org



find us on social media

Pastoral Emergency Line
423-708-5303

Christ Chapel
Items for December:
Pasta & Soups

**We won't have a
Newsletter the week
of 12.26.**



Where Truth and Love come together

www.fbcfo.org

Upcoming

Family Christmas Skate Party

You are invited to our third annual Family Christmas Skate Party happening this Sunday from 5 to 7 pm. All ages are encouraged to join together for this special Happy Birthday Jesus celebration, even if skating is not your thing. We will meet at the Fort O Roller Coaster Skate World and enjoy cake and a special photo op with Ole Saint Nick. Friends are welcome.

"First Christmas" on Christmas Eve

Imagine our main Worship Center filled to capacity with all of our church family and the people we have invited to celebrate Christmas and experience the life-changing hope of the gospel! That is the vision of our "First Christmas" on Christmas Eve with a special worship time of 5 pm. Let's pray now, and invite others, for that special experience happening Monday, 12.24, at 5 pm.

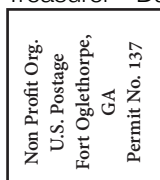
Closer to Freedom this Christmas

Remember Free to BE as we draw near to the end of 2018. We are one step closer to being debt free as our countdown to Freedom continues. A special end of 2018 gift is a perfect way to join the cause and help us get below the \$800,000 mark. Our current balance is \$846,908. Thank you for supporting our march towards Freedom!

The Summit is Coming in 2019

There was a time when Jesus called His closest followers onto a mountain to experience more of His power and majesty (see Matthew 17), and we are praying ahead of a monthly "mountain" experience for all of our FBC leaders. Stay tuned to learn more about the Second Sunday Summit beginning in February 2019!

Dec. 12 - Dec. 19



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

Word From Our Pastor

Jason Thomas

From Curious to Commissioned!
When Jesus selected those who would be His closest followers, they were just ordinary men. The Jewish leaders later noted these humble beginnings, but with this important addition, **“When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13).**

As we take this next step in our newsletter series on Shared Values, let’s consider the value of growing in Christ. Last week, I emphasized the importance of having shared values. Shared values give us

common unity, identity, and direction. And so, I shared insight into the “GOSPEL” values that our staff has been praying over for several weeks: Growing in our walk with Jesus, having an Otward focus, being Spirit empowered, putting People over programs, pursuing Excellence in all that we do, while always Leading courageously. These are values we cherish and believe will help us champion our church mission.

Growth is one of our greatest values. Church families often focus on growth in terms of numbers. Jesus never did. He focused, instead on pouring into a handful of people who would pour into others. This timeless approach to disciple-making sparked a movement of revival that is world-wide and ongoing. Jesus leads us from curious about Him to commissioned by Him to lead others. And the more we grow, the more we help others grow. Let’s keep growing in Christ! -Jason

The Sunday Report

Bible Study Attendance	198
11 am Worship Attendance	244

Annual Budget	570,548.00
YTD Budget Needs	526,659.69
YTD Budget Giving	506,451.44

This Sunday’s Message:
Fulfilled in Christ:
The Outpouring at Pentecost

Total Receipts for the Week:	24,396.41
Weekly Budget Giving	15,465.67
Weekly Freedom Giving	4,990.00
Weekly Missions Giving	2,207.86

Next Sunday’s Message:
“Experience the Miracle”
Luke 2:1-20

Announcements

Prayer Breakfast
Our next Men’s Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, 1.12, in the New Year. Make plans now to attend this special breakfast. Mr. Hank Humphrey will be our special guest speaker. It all begins at 8:15 am in our downstairs Gathering Circle.

Pecan Fundraiser
Only a few bags of pecans remain for the Keenagers’ Annual Pecan Fundraiser. Each bag is only \$12. Contact Rena Honeycutt @ 706.866.2497 or Nolan & Dolores Richardson @ 423.580.4679 to get yours before they run out!

Prayer Breakfast
Calling women of all ages to our next Women’s Prayer Breakfast happening Saturday, 1.19, in the New Year. Make plans to attend this special breakfast. It will begin at 8:15 am in our downstairs Gathering Circle and will include a devotion.

Discipleship

God is concerned with bringing people from death to life. His heart rejoices over each person who returns to Him from a time of rebellion. If your heart is like God’s, you, too, will rejoice when a sinner returns to the Father. This Christmas will be more meaningful if we don’t lose sight of Easter!

Jesus’ parable about the prodigal son is as much about the older son who remained as it is about the wayward son or the father. Year after year the older son labored for his father, waiting for a future reward, the original Scrooge! He had seen the brokenness his brother’s rebellion had caused his father. Yet when his brother returned, the older son did not rejoice with his father. He felt no pleasure in seeing his father happy. His concern was for himself and the injustice he perceived he’d been dealt. He felt like a martyr and totally missed the blessing of celebrating with his father.



Andy Atkinson

Christmas is about a newness and freshness, a delight over duty.

It is possible to serve God year after year and yet have a heart that is far from Him. You might be one of the hardest workers in our church and yet be filled with bitterness because others do not share your load. You can become so preoccupied with your spiritual labors that when God works miracles in the lives of those around you, you cannot rejoice. Rejoice this season! Tis the season!

If you serve the Lord out of duty or habit, but not out of joy and gratitude, you will feel like a martyr. You will envy those who are experiencing joy in the Lord while you feel weighed down by the work you are doing. This is not the abundant life your Father has planned for you. Come to the celebration, spend time with the Father, and share in His joy! He is freely offering it!

Patrick Everett

Student Spotlight

CNIGHTY

Xtreme Conference leaves 12.31 at 11 am. Please remember to pay your \$50.00 deposit to Miki Ingram.

Laser Tag: Wednesday. 12.19, be at the church campus at 6 pm. We will eat and do Laser Tag. We will be back to the church campus at 9 pm! A great way to start your Christmas Vacation!!!

Children's Headlines

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

The Point: Kids Worship will be THIS Sunday, 12.16. Make plans to be with us for this dynamic Worship Celebration that is just for Kids!!

Christmas Skate: We will be hosting our 3rd Annual Christmas Skate Party THIS Sunday evening, 12.16 from 5-7 pm at the Fort O Roller Coaster Skate World. Please mark your calendars and begin inviting your friends!

LaunchPad: We need you and all of our church family!! I've been in

Nichole Stookey

contact with many of you regarding the schedule for LaunchPad next year. If I've not spoken to you and you would like to be added to our list, or you haven't confirmed with me from this past year, please do so ASAP! There is a schedule ready for you to pick your class and dates in the Welcome Center! Our training lunch will be on Sunday, 1.20.19, following the Morning Worship Celebration.

Clubhouse Friends: We will have a small Christmas Party on 12.19 during Clubhouse Friends. If you are able to bring in a dessert or party food please do so. There will be NO Clubhouse Friends on 12.26 or 1.2. Please take this time to spend with your family!!

Worship & More...

Brad Lewis

This morning as I was having my personal worship time, I was listening to a song that has these words in the chorus: *It's Your love that has saved me, it's Your blood that has cleaned me, it's Your love that has saved me, oh Your love.*

As I was singing along in worship, my thoughts went to the words of the powerful hymn “My Savior’s Love” where the author wrote: *How marvelous, how wonderful. And my song shall ever be, how marvelous, how wonderful is my Savior’s love for me.*

I love how the words say “*and my song shall ever be*”. But then I began to evaluate if my song is ever (always) *my Savior’s love*. Sometimes my song is: *that bothers me*. Sometimes it’s: *this is difficult*. Sometimes it’s: *I wish I had...* I don’t always sing of my Savior’s love. I get focused on

myself and not on the Lord, and what comes through my heart and mind, and sometimes out of my mouth is not a declaration about God’s love for me. And that bothers me.

What about you? Is your song ever (always): *my Savior’s love*? What comes out of your heart and your mouth?

May we together, during this time of celebration of our Savior’s birth, renew our minds and hearts with a song that will ever be: *my Savior’s love!*
Worship Well!

-Brad



Men's & Women's Ministry

Cereal Boxes are being collected. They must be 10 to 13 inches tall. Open the flaps at both ends, flatten the boxes, and cut off the flaps. Bring your boxes to the Koinonia or Challenge Class rooms.

Helping Hands are available from our Men’s Ministry if you need help with small jobs around the house. Email churchoffice@fbcfo.org to share requests.

Christmas Office Schedule

There are many ways to stay in touch with our staff through the Christmas holiday season. You can always call the Church Office main phone line at 706.866.0232 or email churchoffice@fbcfo.org. Use our pastoral hotline at

423.708.5303 for urgent ministry needs. Messages will be returned promptly. Our office will be closed for Christmas on 12.24 - 27 and New Years on 1.2. Have a wonderful Christmas season!

Lottie Moon for World Missions

Ms. Lottie Moon was a dynamic missionary in China in the late 1800’s, and the Christmas offering that bears her name is one of the best ways to support God’s world-wide gospel mission. Our 2019 goal is

\$16,500, and every penny will go directly to fuel the people who are reaching people and planting churches internationally. So far we have raised \$3,735.00 towards our goal. Thank you for sharing in this important cause!