

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you Church Family for serving as an area Shoebox Collection Center for the 16th year in a row. This year we collected 507 shoeboxes from 9 local churches and 3 individual families. FBC Washington donated 96 of those shoeboxes. This ministry is so much more than giving a shoebox of toys and toiletries to a child. The Gospel is shared with each child and because of this small gift, thousands of children and their family members come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Thank you Church once again for your generosity and your desire to see others come to know Christ.

FBC Operation Christmas Child Team

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM HOMEPOINTE

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, HomePointe Center wishes all of our church family a holiday season of Love, Joy and Peace. We encourage you and your family to drop by HomePointe during the holidays; there are numerous items available to help and encourage you in your journey of faith. Be sure and register for a special Christmas gift to be given away before Christmas.

A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear 5K Committee & Church Family,
Our family would like to thank everyone that had a special part in the Jason Chapman 5K Run. From the volunteers, sponsors and participates, you all made it a huge success. The pancake breakfast is always a great finish to the run where we enjoy fellowship with family and friends. Thank you for keeping Jason’s memory alive.
- The Chapman Family

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Contributions have been made to the Pre-K Ministry in memory of Phil Scarborough by Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Callaway; Linda Albea by Gracia Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Craycraft, Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Callaway, and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Finney; in memory of Jimmy Barnett by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Finney.
A contribution has been made to the Parking Lot Fund in memory of Dorla Adams by Quinnie Williamson.
A contribution has been made to the World Hunger in memory of Dorla Adams and Jimmy Barnett by Dr. and Mrs. Carlton Hearn.
A contribution has been made to the General Fund in memory of Jim Burton by Jane Burton.
A contribution has been made to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in memory of Marvin McAvoy, Edythe McCall Armour, Rev. Bill Boyd by Dr. and Mrs. M.R. Clayton.

A contribution has been made to the Pre-K Ministry in honor John Sisson by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Palmer; in honor of Adam Scarborough by Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Callaway.
A contribution has been made to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in honor of Betty Reese, Peyton McGill, and Joseph Rambo by Dr. and Mrs. M.R. Clayton.

Pre-K Corner

December 2017

Our Pre-K students are filled with the wonder and excitement of the season as they sing carols, ring bells, make ornaments, open gifts, and visit shut-ins. But, in our hustle and bustle, our main focus will be to learn about the Christmas story and to celebrate the birth of Jesus!
You are invited to celebrate with us by attending the annual Pre-K Christmas Program on Thursday, December 14, at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. It will be filled with singing, Bible verses, a poem, and the Christmas story. There will be angels, sheep, Mary, baby Jesus...and more!
As we seek Jesus in 2017, we don’t have to travel to Bethlehem. We don’t need to follow a star, a map, or a GPS to search for Him. We can find our way to Jesus by reading God’s Holy word, the Bible. Please join us in seeking Jesus this Christmas by worshipping Him and crowning Him as our King!
“When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.” Matthew 2:9

The Fellowship

Monthly Newsletter from First Baptist Church of Washington, Georgia

December
2017
January
2018

First Baptist Church
P.O Box 603
Washington, GA 30673
706-678-2912
www.fbcwashingtonga.org

Following Jesus
~
Loving Others
~
Impacting the World!

Our Church Staff

Kevin Madden	Senior Pastor 706-401-6124
Scott Yaikow	Youth Pastor
Walt Brown	Minister of Music
Traci Steward	Lead Min. Assistant
Tammy Echols	Ministry Assistant
Louise McClearen	Ministry Assistant
Angie Williams	Pre-K Lead Teacher
Ed Smith	Building Superintendent
Janet Clayton	Nursery Attendant



We’re celebrating Advent as we follow the star on our journey to Christmas! Join us each Sunday morning as we discover the true Hope, Love, Joy & Peace of Christmas. We will explore the faithful promises in God’s Word, the joyous birth of our Savior and the glorious return of the King of Kings! Make this a Christmas to remember as we also use the family devotional book, *The Star*, during this advent season.

Don’t miss out on all the wonderful holiday activities found inside this edition of *The Fellowship* and make sure and see the special insert which highlights the many Christmas and New Year’s activities! (You may even want to put it on the fridge!)



Getting ready for a NEW Year!

It will be 2018 before you know it... and that means a New Year with new opportunities to grow in our relationship with Christ!

Make plans now to join us for “A Fresh Start with God in 2018” as we have a fresh encounter with God through His Word and in our worship. There are some very exciting opportunities to grow together in 2018... so check out the New Year highlights insert and get ready to have a fresh start with God in 2018!



Words from Walt

There are many things happening in the music ministry for the month of December and January.

First – “**Call His Name Jesus**” will be presented on Sunday night, December 17th at 6:00. This evening of music and narration will feature our Worship Choir as well as the Children’s Community Choir. Be sure to make your plans to attend this night of wonderful music as we celebrate the season.

Next – January will bring a new and exciting ministry. We will begin a Youth Praise Team. This group will be meeting on Sunday afternoons from 5:00-5:45. The Praise Team will learn music for the purpose of leading worship in their Wednesday night Bible Study time. They will also be featured from time to time in our Sunday Services. The projected start date is January 14th.

Lastly – The Music Ministry will present “**The Living Portrayal of Da Vinci’s Last Supper**” at the Washington Little Theater. The dates are March 23-25. If there are any men who are interested in being a part of this presentation, please contact the music office as soon as possible; several speaking parts are available. Rehearsal will begin in January.

A Call to the Manger

What draws you to the manger? We have heard how God, in various ways, called out to others drawing them to the manger. In days of old He used an angel, a dream, a multitude of angels, and even a star.

You know, I can’t help but think that God continues to call each of us...calling us to the manger where we can worship Jesus. Like those of old, we all have a story. We all have little signs that reach out to us and say, come to the manger, come, worship Him there. Some of us know our stories well and have come to a point in our lives where we have recognized His call and come to worship reverently, rejoicing. Others of us see the “star.” We recognize that there is a sign out there but with the troubles and rush of our everyday living, we find it hard to figure out what the sign is saying and where it’s going to lead us. Some of us have had dreams and have chosen to ignore them, explaining them away as empty illusions. Some have heard angels whisper to their soul and have trembled in fear, rather than be comforted.

Are you searching? Do you cry out...show me the star, give me a dream, calm all my fears? What draws you to the manger? May each of us understand that he still came just for us. Knowing all he would endure, He still came. Disregarding every cost, from the manger to the cross, He still came just for us, He still came.

I pray that His coming draws you ever closer to Him this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.

*Because of Grace,
Walt*

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

The Week of Prayer for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will be December 3rd-10th. Our church goal is \$18,000. We will have our special emphasis program on Wednesday, December 6 at the Prayer Meeting hour. Our speaker for this evening will be Jerry Claxton, missionary to Israel. He was with us last year and gave an entertaining and informative presentation on Southern Baptist mission work in that country. He has just returned from Israel and will have updated information on efforts to spread the Gospel there. A Chinese meal will be provided by the WMU and we invite everyone in our church to attend this special evening. There is no charge for the meal, but we will collect a love offering to give to our missionary. Please sign up by calling the church office so that we will have plenty of food.

TRIP TO A.H. STEPHENS PARK TO SEE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Everyone is invited to go to A.H. Stephens Park in Crawfordville to see their Christmas lights on Friday, December 8. We will leave the church at 6 p.m. or you can meet there. There is no cost and the Children’s Committee will have s’mores and hot chocolate for everyone. Sign up by calling the church office.

WASHINGTON CHRISTMAS PARADE OF LIGHTS

First Baptist will be having a church-wide float in the parade on Saturday, December 9 at 6 p.m. We welcome anybody in the church to participate by riding. We will meet between 5-5:30 p.m. to load at Tiger Stadium. Sign up by calling the church office if you plan to participate.

Children's Ministry

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 9

9 a.m.

Sign up in the Church office

Trip to A.H. Stephens Park to See Lights

Friday, December 8

6 p.m.

Sign up in the Church Office

CentriKid
camps

July 9th-13th

If you are interested in CentriKid, please
contact Amy Johnston or pick up paperwork on
the Information Table. There is a \$25 deposit
due now with \$25 monthly payments.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY TO BEGIN IN JANUARY

Our January Precept study will be “Lord is it Warfare? Teach me to stand”. A study based in the book of Ephesians. Once you become a Christian, you enter a war zone. The problem is, you may not even realize it. But that’s about to change. “Lord, Is It Warfare?” will equip you to recognize and understand the spiritual warfare that is inevitable for those who follow the Lord Jesus Christ. You’ll learn all the battle tactics and devices of your adversary, Satan. And you’ll discover scriptural ways to overcome the enemy by turning to Christ, who loves you and offers you all the strength, wisdom, and power you need for victory. Let Kay Arthur guide you through the Scriptures every day in this comprehensive inductive study. Your time with God in His Word will minister to you and help you stand strong in the face of spiritual conflict. And these are truths you can share easily with others, individually or in small groups. We will begin on Wednesday, January 10; 9-11am. Please sign up by December 22 so that we have time to get books ordered.

Youth Ministry

Wednesday Night Youth Bible Study

This is the schedule for Wednesday Night Youth Bible Study. There are details below for the events.

12/6—Meet in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 for Missionary

12/13—Caroling

12/20—Youth Christmas Party

12/27—No Youth

01/03—No Youth

01/10—Back to Normal Youth Bible Study at 6:30 in The Ark

Winter Retreat

We will be going to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee for Winter Retreat. The dates are December 30th, 2017-January 3rd, 2018. We will be leaving from the church at 9 am on December 30th. You will need money to eat coming and going on the bus and you will need spending money for Dollywood. We will be spending one day at Dollywood. Make sure that you have all your paperwork turned in.

Youth Christmas Party

We will be having our Youth Christmas Party at The Ark on Wednesday, December 20th at 6 pm. We will be having food and fun.

Youth Caroling

The youth will go caroling to our church shut-ins on Wednesday, December 13th. We will meet at The Ark at 5 pm for a meal together and then leave about 6 to go caroling. We will be taking a wagon, so you might want to wear something that is warm that night.

WW Christmas Parade

We will be participating in the Washington-Wilkes Christmas Parade again this year. The parade this year is December 9th at 6:00 pm. If you want to ride on the church wagon, meet at the football field around 5:00 pm.

Living Nativity

We will be going to a living nativity in Elberton on Sunday, December 10th. We will meet at the church at 4:45 and take the bus to Elberton. You will need money to eat fast food on the way home.

M-Fuge

We will be going back to North Greenville University in Tigerville, South Carolina again this year for M-Fuge. The dates for M-Fuge are June 18th-23rd, 2018. The cost is \$305. A \$50 deposit is due by no later than Sunday, January 21st, 2018. The deposit will guarantee your spot for M-Fuge.

In His Love,
Pastor Scott

