



# DECEMBER

## 2018

First Baptist Church Taylorsville

# FBC Family News

***“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is on Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and freedom to the prisoners;” (Isaiah 61:1, HCSB)***

Christmas is upon us and fast approaching. I was in Hattiesburg with my wife back in October and was amazed that some stores had begun selling Christmas items before Halloween. A few weeks have passed and now Thanksgiving is behind us. Time flies.

Isaiah, was an 8<sup>th</sup> century prophet. The book in the Bible that bears his name is the longest of all the prophets. There are passages that address the sins of the nation of Israel and God’s impending judgement. Isaiah denounced the sins of Israel’s enemies as well. No sin goes unnoticed with God. God’s grace and mercy is revealed in Isaiah too. The prophet of God spoke about the coming Servant of the Lord. The Servant of the Lord would be for all people, ***“I, Yahweh, have called You for a righteous purpose, and I will hold You by Your hand. I will keep You and appoint You to be a covenant for the people and a light to the nations,” (Isaiah 42:6, HCSB)*** Gentiles, as well as Jews, would benefit from the Servant’s ministry.

Isaiah 61:1 is of particular interest. This is the very passage that Jesus would read from while visiting his hometown synagogue in Nazareth. ***“He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. As usual, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath day and stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him, and unrolling the scroll, He found the place where it was written: The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor. He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on Him. He began by saying to them, “Today as you listen, this Scripture has been fulfilled.”” (Luke 4:16–21, HCSB)*** Jesus interpreted Isaiah’s words to have been fulfilled through his own ministry. Salvation is found in Jesus Christ. That was the message Jesus preached. It was a message that echoed the ancient writings of the prophets.

Christmas is big business. The average adult will spend between \$700-\$1,000 this year during Christmas. The National Retail Federation estimates spending on gifts and holiday goods to total more than \$465 billion. It is refreshing to see the reminders of signs, memes, and postcards that say something like, *“He is the reason for the season.”* But look a little closer to the Scriptures. Examine the words of the ancient prophets and observe that Christmas is not just the birth of the Savior. Christmas is the fulfillment of God’s promise. Christmas is one part of God’s great plan to provide redemption to those needing to be redeemed from their sin. Christmas is not just the birth of a baby Jesus. The baby Jesus was born with a purpose. He was God incarnate. His ministry was to proclaim the good news (the gospel), to heal the broken-hearted (reconciliation), and to set the captives free (freedom from the bonds of sin).

My expectation of a secular culture getting the true meaning of Christmas is very low. Occasionally, a blind squirrel will find an acorn. Sometimes, they do. One of my favorite Christmas shows was the Peanuts gang’s “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” written by the late Charles Shultz. When the movie came out in 1965, Shultz was told it would fail, but it has become a classic. I remember waiting patiently as a little boy to watch it each Christmas season. My granddaughters watch it throughout the year. That little cartoon contains a beautiful recitation from Luke’s gospel of the birth narrative.

My expectations of believers are much higher. Christians should know the Scriptures enough to recognize where God has made a promise and interpret its fulfillment. They should be able to appreciate the beauty of the Trinity in such passages when it says, ***“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is on Me*** in Luke’s gospel. The Spirit from the Father had rested upon the Son. Jesus interpreted it that way. The Son of God was the premier revelation to all mankind. The Father is spirit and so is the Holy Spirit. No one had seen the Father, but the Son revealed Him to us. It was the Son that became the intermediary between God and mankind. He is the One who has reconciled us to the Father. That was the purpose of his birth.

Dr. Frankie Clark, Senior Pastor

# *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions*

*Every church.  
Every nation.*

## ***Every Church. Every Nation.***

It's more than a catch phrase. It's at the core of what we do. We believe every church—and every church member—has a critical role to play in bringing the gospel to the world. Your participation in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is a key part of that.

## ***Your Gifts Transform Lives***

Because you give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, IMB missionaries can take the gospel to unreached peoples around the world. Every dollar you give makes a difference, because 100% of the money collected goes to the work of reaching every nation.

## ***The Story of Lottie Moon***

In the 1800s, a missionary named Lottie Moon wrote letters from China urging American churches to fund more overseas workers. After Lottie's death on the mission field, an offering was started in her name. The offering was established to empower international missions efforts for Southern Baptists.

**NATIONAL GOAL IS \$160 MILLION**

**OUR CHURCH GOAL IS \$9,000**

This offering will be taken during the months of December and January.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS IS**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2—SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**

Please pray for IMB Missionaries during this time.  
Special videos will be posted to our church facebook page throughout the week.

Special offering envelopes will be available.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

	NURSERY	2-3 YR OLDS	4-5 YR OLDS	1-4 GRADE
Dec 2	Melissa Evans	Rosalyn Glenn	Gwen Creel	Wendy Walley/Mary Ann Hill
Dec 9	Nancy Blakeney	Kristy McCord	Darlene Booth	Rosalyn Glenn/Darlene Jordan
Dec 16	Gwen Creel	Jamie Robinson	Lynn Stringer	Sarah Jones/Judy White
Dec 23	Mary Ann Hill	Deon Garris	Rebecca Holder	Kenny & Kristy McCord
Dec 30	Susan Pierce	Emily Evans	Gwen Creel	Joe & Delia Flynt

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO VOLUNTEER ON THE DATE LISTED, PLEASE CONTACT GWEN CREEL, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR, AT (601) 517-1117.**

### DEACONS OF THE MONTH:

Joe Flynt & Mark Cassell

### **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

Dec 1 and Dec 15—Clothes Closet—8-Noon am

Dec 20— Food Pantry—4-5:30 pm



### **WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS**

**Dec 5 (Nancy Blakeney' group)**—Hamburger steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, dessert

**Dec 12 ( group)** Fried Chicken, rice/gravy, peas, cornbread/roll, dessert

**Dec 19**—No supper

**Dec 26**—No activities



*Following our **Children's Christmas Musical** on **Sun, December 16 at 6 pm**, we will have a Christmas Fellowship in the Family Life Center. We ask everyone to bring finger foods. There will be a sign up sheet located outside the church office for you to indicate what you will bring. We will be having guests with us that night so we want to have a time of fellowship and make them feel welcome. This will be a great time and opportunity for outreach. Thank you for your help!*

**CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.”**

Cole & Taylor Avera & unborn baby with spina bifida  
 Dick Blakeney  
 Dodie Blakeney-cancer & broken hip  
 Trevor Blakeney  
 Cynthia Boykin  
 Clayton Brady  
 Patsy Bryant—Roy Moss' sister  
 Doug Bynum Family  
 Sherry Cockrell Family  
 Anderson Evans  
 Mike Evans  
 Bobbie Gambrell  
 Danielle Garrison  
 Patricia Hankins  
 Sue Blakeney Herrington  
 Wade & Melissa Hummer  
 Shane Irvin  
 Sherry James  
 Dorothy Rogers King Family  
 Ray & Pat Lancaster  
 Gloria Lucas  
 Law Enforcement Officers  
 Angela Lyle-Lynn Williamson's cousin  
 Frank McGill  
 Ray Prine-began chemo Monday  
 Tristan Scott  
 Brenton & Danielle Shelby-NYC Missionaries  
 Bob and Sandra Sims  
 Edie Stringer-cancer  
 Joseph "Dan" Stringer  
 Sandra Stucky  
 Sherry Parker Sullivan  
 Martha Walker  
 Billy Harold Wallace-cancer

Jason Walley  
 West Laurel Baptist Church  
 Jane White  
 Judy White  
 Anna Marie Williamson  
 Ashlyn Williamson and unborn baby, Mary Grace  
 Jimmy "Snuff" Wilson-Rachel's son  
 Sharon Yates Family

### Homebound

Daisy Blakeney  
 Marion Dollar  
 Burl and Geraldine English  
 Elizabeth Lee

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living

Carl Arnold  
 Sheila Bowman  
 Bobbie Butler  
 Mary Evans  
 Janell Holifield  
 Peggy King  
 Sue King  
 Jimmy Dale Phipps  
 Maurine Sitz  
 Mollie Stringer  
 Joe Daniel Stringer  
 Sharia Stringer  
 Vida Yeager

### Cancer/Long Term

Cindy Austin  
 Bill Bassett -cancer  
 Peggy Black  
 Noel Carter  
 Anita Cochran  
 Carolyn Stringer Craig  
 Teresa Driskoll

### Cancer/Long Term cont

Jamie Duvall  
 Eddie Ray Glenn- Pancreatic cancer  
 Joe Griffith  
 Barbara Hegwood  
 Rosemary Higgins  
 Jason Horn  
 Freda Hutcherson  
 Cole Jackson-Acute Leukemia  
 Dennis Johnson-cancer  
 Betty Jones—cancer  
 Kaye Keeton—cancer free  
 Ed Kennedy  
 Jamie and Sandra King  
 Dakota McMinn  
 Brenda Myers—pancreatic cancer  
 Amanda Prince  
 Kathy Rayner—cancer  
 Mickey Robinson  
 Sandra Scott—cancer  
 Chase Sims  
 Kaden Smith  
 Terri Sullivan  
 Katie Sumrall Sims  
 W. L. Sykes-cancer  
 Keith Thompson—prostate cancer  
 Marlene Townsend—lung cancer  
 Gina Tucker—cancer  
 Melanie Odom White  
**Military**  
 Harry Blakeney (Active)  
 Zack Howell (Active)  
 Patrick Kelly (Active)  
 Erik & Josie Nix  
 Mike White (Active)



December 2018						
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30	31					

- 1 Clothes Closet open from 8 am until noon
- 2 Special Offering for Staff Appreciation  
 Soup/Sandwich Lunch Fundraiser for NYC Summer Mission Trip—  
 following morning worship  
 Children's Christmas Musical rehearsal—3-6 pm  
 Ensemble practice 6 pm
- 2-9 Week of Prayer for International Missions—  
 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering emphasis begins
- 9 2019 Budget adoption  
 A Night of Christmas @ 6 pm—Sign up to participate on or before Wed, Dec 5  
 Deacons meeting following Night of Christmas
- 12 Business meeting 6 pm  
 Students' Christmas Party—Bring \$5 gift wrapped
- 13 Christmas in the Park following Town Christmas Parade at 5 pm
- 14 Dress rehearsal for Children's Christmas Musical—6-9 pm
- 15 Clothes Closet open from 8 am until noon
- 16 Children's Christmas Musical—6 pm Fellowship to follow in Family Life Center
- 18 Faith & Grace Christmas Party @ The Creel's 6 pm
- 19 Candlelight Service 6 pm—Supper will not be served.  
 Winter Xtreme Parent Meeting following worship in Student Bldg
- 20 Food Pantry open from 4-5:30 pm
- 23 Regularly scheduled activities
- 26 No Wednesday evening activities
- 29-31 Student trip to Winter Xtreme, Gatlinburg, TN





### **Budget Vote, Sun. Dec 9**

There will be a vote on the Budget Committee's budget proposal for 2019 prior to morning worship on Dec 9 at 10:30 am. This vote will be without discussion.



### *Sounds of the Season*

### **Night of Christmas, Dec 9, 6 pm**

This has become an annual event each Christmas season. It is a wonderful night of Christmas music. Our ensemble will sing, as well as our children. If you would like to participate by singing, reading, playing an instrument, etc., please sign up. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board by the church office.



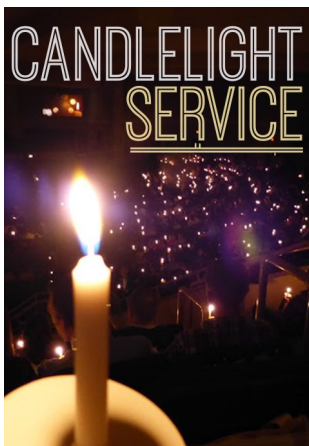
### **CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK**

**THURS, DECEMBER 13**

**FOLLOWING TOWN  
CHRISTMAS PARADE**

### **Christmas in the Park, Dec 13, 5:30 pm**

The Taylorsville Christmas Parade will be Dec. 13, at 5 pm. Local churches and businesses will have tents set up in the park behind City Hall. There will be caroling, food, pony/buggy rides, hay rides, and more. Invite your friends to come join in this festive event.



### **Candlelight Service, Dec. 19, 6 pm**

Each year, just before Christmas, our church gathers for a candlelight service to commemorate the birth of our Savior and His purpose for coming. We will also observe the Lord's Supper during the service. Bring your family. It is a joyous celebration.



I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you as our church family. My surgery and month's long recovery has been difficult, and you all have been a bright spot during this time. Your visits, phone calls, cards, prayer-grams, and thoughts have been encouraging to me and Wendy (she's been a great nurse)! The love offering you gave was very generous and kind! Please continue to pray as I heal and regain strength. I hope to see you soon!

Jason Walley



**FACT OR FICTION**  
**CHILDREN'S MUSICAL**  
**REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

Fri, Nov 30 from 6-9 pm  
Sun, Dec 2 from 3-6 pm  
Fri, Dec 7 from 6-9 pm  
Sun, Dec 9 from 3-6 pm  
Fri, Dec 13 from 6-9 pm (Dress Rehearsal)  
All rehearsals will be held in the sanctuary.

**CHILDREN WILL SING A SELECTION FROM THE MUSICAL ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

- \*Sun, Dec 2—10:30 am—FBC—meet in choir room at 10
- \*Sun, Dec 9—6 pm FBC (following practice)
- \*Thurs, Dec 13—Christmas in the Park (Time TBD)
- \*Children will wear their team t-shirts on all these occasions.*

The musical will be presented on Sun, December 16 at 6 pm. Children will need to be here at 4 pm.

If you have questions about any of these dates, please see Lisa Shelby or Gwen Creel.

# It's a FACT!

We want YOU to join us for...

**FACT OR FICTION**  
**THE CHRISTMAS EDITION**  
CREATED BY CELESTE CLYDESDALE ARRANGED BY DAVID T. CLYDESDALE

We'll sing and celebrate the real reason for the season—JESUS!

**WHERE:**  
**FBC TAYLORSVILLE**

**DATE:**  
**SUN, DECEMBER 16**

**TIME:**  
**6:00 PM –RECEPTION TO FOLLOW**



**ADMISSION IS FREE!**

