



- Dec 1 - Wednesday Night Meal/Adult Bible Study, S150 at 6 pm
- Dec 5 - Sunday School, 10:00 am
- Dec 8 - Wednesday Night Meal/Adult Bible Study, S150 at 6 pm
- Dec 12 - Sunday School, 10:00 am
- Dec 15 - Wednesday Night Meal/Adult Bible Study, S150 at 6 pm
- Dec 19 - Sunday School, 10:00 am
- Dec 19 - Deacons Meeting, Conference Room, 12:15 pm
- Dec 21 - Community Christmas Service, 7:00 pm (see article)
- Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary, 5 pm (see article)
- Dec 24 - **Christmas Eve (church office closed)**
- Dec 25 - **Christmas Day**
- Dec 26 - Sunday School, 10:00 am
- Dec 27 - Church office closed (holiday observance)



There will be no Wednesday night activities on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and December 29th. We will resume these activities on Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Happy Anniversary!

- 12/8 Charles and Elaine Alexander
- 12/9 Hayden and Kakki Schertzer
- 12/24 Clay and Melissa Ewing



for the families of ...

Susan Brown who passed away.  
Nancy White who passed away.  
All Healthcare professionals, all First Responders,  
and all families dealing with Coronavirus.

**RADIO SPONSORS:** If you can't be present in the sanctuary for the worship service, listen to the broadcast on WJSG, G-104 on your FM dial. The following area businesses sponsor the broadcast: Jenkins Automotive and Industrial Supply, Medical Center Pharmacy and Carter Funeral Home.



### The First Baptist Informer

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*Address Service Requested*

December 1 - 31

## Church Staff

- Rev. Jack Lee, Senior Pastor**  
jack.fbcrock@gmail.com
- Guest Accompanists**
- Carly McKay, Choir Director**
- Chris McEntire, Director of Accounting**
- Daniel Short, Custodian**
- John Thompson, Admin/Finance Assistant**  
john.fbcrock@gmail.com



# The First Baptist Informer

## Rockingham, North Carolina

“To know Christ and make Him known”

Vol. XLIV \* Number 12 \* December 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021



Christmas ushers in many memories from childhood. Santa Clause. Nativity. Family. Friends. Food. Games. Toys. Snow. Cold. Plays. Jesus. Gifts. They all seem to invoke emotions that bring smiles, laughter, and even tears. Yet, they are welcomed and embraced. I am thankful for those memories that helped shape me into the man that I am today. The challenge presented to us today: embrace those moments. Cherish those moments.

From Charles Dicken’s book “A Christmas Carol” we read about the visit from the ghost of Christmas past. Scrooge cannot endure another memory of a failed moment. He realizes that he didn’t seize the day, nor cherish the time. He asked to be removed from that burden. James 4:4 “For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appears for a little time, and then disappears.”

Even God knew we needed to be reminded of the precious time that passes all too quickly. A challenge to seize the day in our faith is readily available. Will you take the time to convey love and appreciation to those in your life? Live out your faith by helping others see the light of Christmas in the precious babe in the manger. Jesus. Blessings, Jack

## The Surprising Story of ‘O Holy Night’

‘O Holy Night’ had its origins in the mid-1800s in France. But the song stirred a lot of controversy in the church, to the point where it was banned. When asked to pen a poem for his parish’s Mass that Christmas, composer Placide Cappeau thought about the birth of Jesus, as cataloged in the Gospel of Luke, as he wrote the lyrics.

He enlisted the help of his Jewish friend Adolphe Charles Adams to aid in the composition of the music. The song was initially titled, “Cantique de Noel.” Although the church in France initially accepted the carol, Cappeau was later swayed by socialist propaganda and walked away from his faith. The church in France condemned the work due to this.

Nevertheless, the lyrics and music made its way to America through abolitionist John Sullivan Dwight. He changed some of the lyrics slightly. Dwight particularly identified with the third verse which spoke about breaking the chains of slavery and seeing every man as our brother. Thanks to Dwight and the covert efforts of the lyrics being sung during Christmas in Europe, the song’s notoriety spread worldwide, rumored to have been even sung on Christmas Eve during the Franco-Prussian War.

### Resource Recording Team

**Monday, Dec 6, 2021**

Bonnie Barnes, Joanne Cadieu

**Monday, Dec 13, 2021**

Beth Ray, Debbie Holloway

**Monday, Dec 20, 2021**

Mary Joyner, Sally Pierce

**Tuesday, Dec 28, 2021**

Dennis Holloway, Jason Coen



### Attendance Report

**Sunday, Nov 7, 2021**

Sunday School - 55  
Worship Service - 76

**Sunday, Nov 14, 2021**

Sunday School - 45  
Worship Service - 70

**Sunday, Nov 21, 2021**

Sunday School - 55  
Worship Service - 76

**Sunday, Nov 28, 2021**

Sunday School - 58  
Worship Service - 104

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*Rev. Jack Lee*



*Carley McKay*

*Daniel Short*

*John Thompson*

*We hope everyone has a safe and joyful Christmas season. FBC Staff.*

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Christmas is the season for giving. Because God gave the world His son and our Savior, we also have the privilege, the blessing, and the responsibility to give our prayers and money to support Baptist Missionaries who seek to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through multiple avenues around the globe. Such a monumental task requires participation from every believer, and at FBC we have the opportunity to support missions through two Baptist groups:

The Global Missions Offering (CBF) / The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (SBC)

The goal at First Baptist Church is \$2,000. Please designate your gifts to these mission organizations.

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Drew Moree will be baptized on Sunday, December 26th during our morning worship service. We hope you will join us as Drew publicly declares his love for Christ, and that you will help us to welcome him officially into our congregation.

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The Mission Committee is pleased to announce a Children's Christmas event for FBC to participate in. Our church will host a party on Saturday, December 11 from 1:30-3:30 pm. The children have been selected by school counselors but if you have a child you wish to have considered by the team, please contact Debbie Holloway. Church members may participate by donating funds made out to Pee Dee Baptist Association or volunteer to help during the party. Party volunteers will be needed to escort children from one activity to another, to work the parking lot, to aid parents in toy room, to wrap presents, etc. Please contact Debbie Holloway at 910-995-1857 if interested.

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A team from the Pee Dee Baptist Association is requesting your help with a Christmas project called, "One Perfect Gift."

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be three (3) Christmas parties with the gospel being presented to around 100 children of families who could use a little help during these difficult times.

Items being requested are: \*\*Monetary donations for the party. These are to be turned in to the Association earmarked "One Perfect Gift."

\*\*Toys (ages 3-14), \*\*Wrapping Paper, \*\*Tape  
\*\*Gently used coats for Children (3T--XL), \*\*Volunteer hours

For more information, please contact Debbie Holloway (910) 995-1857.



**Happy Birthday**



12/6 Benjamin Ewing  
 12/9 Joanne Cadieu  
 12/12 Diane Stokes  
 12/15 Bloddie Featherston  
 12/22 Scott Emerson  
 12/24 Deborah Knight  
 12/31 Randy Warren

12/7 Pat Buckner  
 12/10 Everly Pope  
 12/13 Gene Barnes  
 12/15 Quinn Shepherd  
 12/22 Carol Chappell  
 12/25 Helen Cox

12/8 Gregory Dawkins  
 12/12 Leah Melvin  
 12/14 Kenneth Robinette  
 12/16 Susan Wheeler  
 12/23 Jacob Coen  
 12/30 Alex Cockerton

The church office will be closed on Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and Monday, December 27<sup>th</sup>.



**Remembering Our Homebound Members**

**TITHES & OFFERINGS**

GIVE UNTO THE LORD

Giving Summary	October 2021	November 2021
General Fund	17,407	11,360
Account Reimbursements	0	1,690
Missions (CBF)	0	0
Missions (SBC)	250	0
Memorials & Honor	215	0
Radio Ministry	800	800
Lottie Moon	0	300
Heating and Air (Loan)	225	250
Local Missions	700	286
Baptist Men	1,000	0
Sound/Light/Sponsor	400	400
Children's Ministry	0	0
Youth Ministry	700	0
Wednesday Night Meals	220	211
<b>Total Gifts</b>	<b>21,917</b>	<b>15,198</b>
Budget req. to date		272,945
Gifts to date		227,954
YTD req. under actual gifts		(44,990)
% giving to req.		84%

**Community Christmas Service**

Tuesday, December 21st at 7:00 pm  
 Church of the Messiah  
 202 N. Lawrence Street, Rockingham, NC

Enjoy an evening of special music of the season provided by various local artist and hear the Christmas scriptures. Reflect on the blessings of Christmas in the beautiful sanctuary of the Church of the Messiah. Everyone is invited.

**Christmas Eve Communion Service**

Friday, December 24th at 5:00 pm  
 First Baptist Church Sanctuary

Leave the hustle and bustle of your preparation outside and relax for a short time at the candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Celebrate the birth of Our Lord with your Church Family and Friends. Everyone is invited.