



# THE TIE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SOUTHERN PINES

*Advent*  
*The Season of Hope and Expectation*



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ADVENT SERVICES
- CHILDREN & ADULT CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

## THOUGHTS FROM OUR TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

### WELCOME TO ADVENT

It is nice when old friends come to visit. All of us likely have friends like this whose visits are infrequent but, when they occur, they recall happy times, fun experiences, and treasured days from the past. Such experiences may even lead one to say, “There is nothing like wonder of being together with old friends.”

Such a feeling comes to mind when we look around the corner and see that the season of Advent is upon us. The Bible stories of Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus are like old friends we have not seen in a while. The music, traditions, and church events are welcome additions to our souls. These friends come once each year during Advent, and how blessed we are that they do.

During this Advent season in December, we will hear the old voices of the prophets proclaiming the Messiah will come. We will hear the Gospels report the stories of “Immanuel: God with Us” as the Messiah is born in

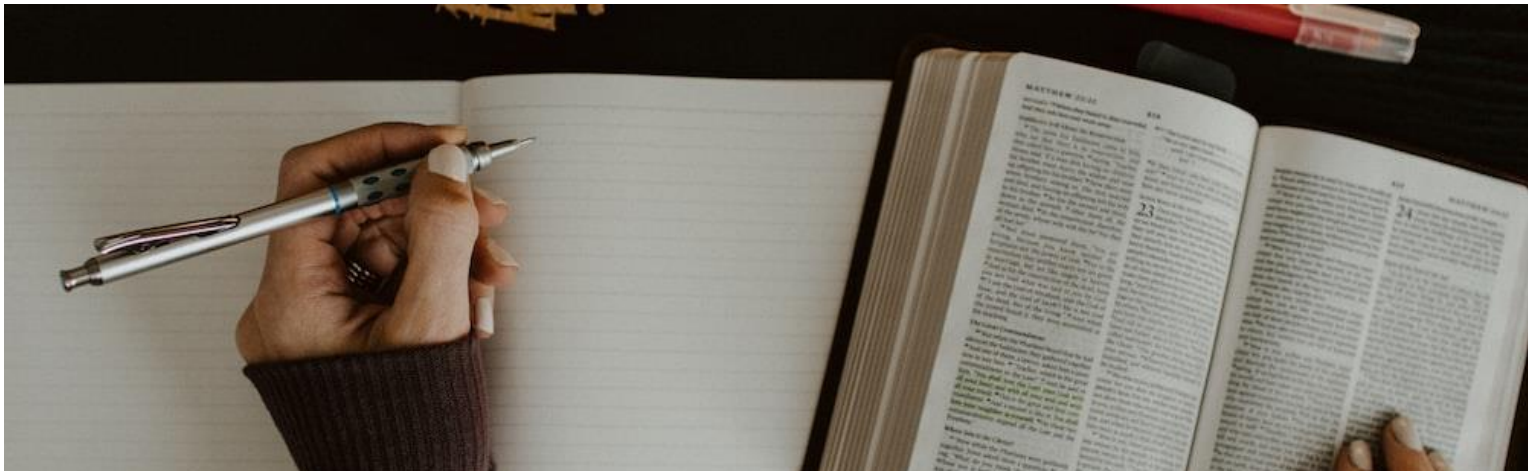
Bethlehem, and we will be challenged to open our hearts anew to the ageless story of the Word made flesh.

Our hope is not merely located in the historical Good News but also in the spiritual Good News that Christ still comes today. The Word becomes flesh and dwells among us, present tense. Advent is about the message that the Incarnate Jesus is the Light of the World, and this Light shines in our complicated and troubled times. And here is the best news – the darkness cannot overcome it.

So, welcome to Advent again dear church. Old friends are coming for a visit, and they bring a timeless message from God. Welcome them anew and be ready for the surprises and new blessings they bring.

Michael G. Cogdill  
Transitional Pastor





# JOYS, CONCERNS, NOTES

## RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS

George Griffin

## NOTES OF GRATITUDE

To my Fellow Church Members,  
I have been thinking of the mission minded church family that I have at First Baptist Church of Southern Pines. I am so thankful Family Promise of Moore County (FPMC) is one of the many organizations that this church serves in its Mission Outreach. I just need to share a little with everyone about some of the mission work that some church members may not know about.

We are one of FPMC's rotational partner churches. That means that approximately every 11 weeks, this church takes on the responsibility for bringing dinner for families staying in the shelter and volunteers spend the night at the shelter with the families Monday – Thursday of that week. In fact, we were one of the “founding” rotational churches participating when FPMC started 24 years ago, and at that time the families were spending the nights in the partner churches. So many volunteers and coordinators, some still active from the beginning and our mission of serving families experiencing homelessness is going strong at the FPMC shelter house. (The church has a bulletin board with more information on this mission volunteer opportunity!

FPMC also recently benefited from an Operation Inasmuch crew that came to the shelter and did some deep cleaning. Cleaning every home needs at least once a year – drawers, doors, cabinets, shelves, and air return grille covers to name a few things. I know there were many OIAM volunteers serving in our community that day, but I have to say I am especially thankful for a brighter, cleaner shelter house after 4 hours of cleaning! We also are thankful for the cleaning supplies and shelter supplies that you left with us. Cleaning is always ongoing with up to four families at a time in the shelter!

A few weeks ago, our church had deacon ordination. As I sat and heard about service and for our deacons to be leaders in service – it brought tears to my eyes and thankfulness to my heart. What I knew as I listened that morning was, the deacon leading the charge, a deacon that was being ordained and a deacon that was returning to serve, already planned to meet me later that afternoon for furniture moving. These three men and several others in our church are a group that I can call on, to help a mother with moving furniture when the family moves into their new home after being in the shelter.

They also help if we receive small furniture donations for future family needs, or if a mother needs to save any furniture the family may have when they are coming into the shelter.

Thank you to my church family for all you do in your mission of service at Family Promise of Moore County and for making a difference in the lives of the families we serve!

Sincerely,  
Peggy U Hendrix, Executive Director, Family Promise of Moore Co. & FBCSP Church Member

Dear Church,  
We want to thank our church family for the meals, cards, calls and prayers over the many months as Carol continues to get stronger. Also, thank you to Bryan and the Youth Group for the wonderful Fresh Market Thanksgiving dinner. Your continued prayers are a blessing to both of us.

Blessings,  
Roger and Carol Wilson

## BUSINESS MEETING

**December 6 at 6:00pm** there will be a Business meeting following the Wednesday Night Supper. Supper will be at 5:00pm.

## FINANCIAL UPDATES YEAR-END GIVING

Reminder that all 2023 Giving must be in the office no later than C.O.B. **December 21 (Church office is closed December 22, 25, and 26)**. If you are dropping it off in person, please remember the office closes at 4:30pm. This allows us to make the deposit in December so that you may claim the amount on your 2023 income tax.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Giving Goals for Nov. 19, 2023	20,502.56
Budget Offerings Received on Nov. 19, 2023	23,852.62
Total Budget Offerings Received in 2023	1,098,888.42
Giving Goal Thru Nov. 19, 2023	1,129,517.10
Receipts to Date Comparison with Goal:	<b>(30,628.68)</b>



**NEWS & NOTES** FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION & ADMINISTRATION

**Advent & Christmas Services**  
*“The Light of Christ”*

**December 3 - First Sunday of Advent: Hope**

Message: *The Light of Hope (Jeremiah 33:14-16 & Galatians 4:4)*

**December 6 - Children’s Christmas Program**

**6:00 PM - Sanctuary**

**December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent: Peace**

Message: *The Light of Peace (Isaiah 64:1 & Mark 1:1-8)*

**December 10 - The Sanctuary Choir Christmas Program**

**4:00 PM - Sanctuary**

**December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent: Joy**

Message: *The Light of Joy (Isaiah 9:2 & John 1:9-14)*

**December 24 - Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love**

Message: *The Light of Love (Isaiah 9:2, 6 & Luke 2:8-16)*

**December 24 - Sunday Service**

**Sunday School -9:45 AM**

**Worship Service at 11:00 AM (One Service)**

**December 24 - Christmas Eve Services**

***The Light of Christ (Luke 2:1-20)***

*Lessons and Carols with Nativity at 5:00 PM*

*Candlelight and Communion at 7:00 PM*

**December 31**

**Combined Adult Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall - 9:45 AM**

*Bring a goodie to share*

**Worship Service at 11:00 AM (One service)**



# FBCSPYG HAPPENINGS



## DECEMBER SCHEDULE

<b>Sunday, Dec. 3</b>	
Sunday School	9:45am - 10:45am
JuBELLation	4:00-4:45pm
Youth Choir (6-12)	5:00-6:00pm
Youth Supper (6-12)	6:00-6:30pm
Youth Bible Study (6-12)	6:30-7:30pm
<b>Sunday, Dec. 10</b>	
Sunday School	9:45am - 10:45am
JuBELLation	5:00-5:30pm
Youth Choir (6-12)	5:30-6:00pm
Youth Supper (6-12)	6:00-6:30pm
Youth Bible Study (6-12)	6:30-7:30pm
<b>Sunday, Dec. 17</b>	
Sunday School	9:45 - 10:45am
Youth Crazy Night Christmas Party	6:00-6:30pm
<b>*NO Youth Sunday Nights Dec. 24 or Dec 31 and Wed., Dec. 20 and 27.</b>	

## YOUTH OUTREACH PROJECTS

<b>Dec. 10</b>	<b>Empty Stocking Project</b> - Youth will adopt two families in the community and give them Christmas. Each youth is asked to buy a \$25 Walmart or food gift card that will be used to buy Christmas for a needy family.
<b>Dec. 13</b>	<b>Children's Christmas Celebration</b> - Youth will have a party with our children with crafts, games and a movie.
<b>Dec. 18</b>	Youth Council Party at the Moore's. 6:30-9:00pm
<b>Dec. 19</b>	College Christmas Party 6:30-9:30pm
<b>Jan. 8</b>	College Care Packages: Youth will send care packages to our college students to brighten their day.

## WINTER RETREATS

### Friday, February 2-Sunday February 4, 2024

This year, we will return to the snowy mountains of West Virginia and Winterplace Ski Resort. We will leave at 12 noon on Friday and spend all day Saturday on the ski slopes, finishing up Sunday morning with a time of praise, worship, and reflection before we board the buses to return home. It will be an awesome weekend that you will not want to miss. The trip will be \$255 for skiing and \$275 for snowboarding, which includes transportation, lodging, 3 meals (2 breakfast, 1 dinner), lift tickets and rentals for Saturday morning and evening. Everyone going on this trip will be required to wear a helmet **NO EXCEPTIONS!** A \$50 deposit is due now to hold your spot. The trip is limited to 30 youth, so sign up soon!

## 2024 RETREATS

### **COLLEGE MISSION TRIP - ORLANDO!**

#### SUNDAY, MAY 19 - SATURDAY, MAY 25


We plan to return to Orlando from May 14-21 to work with the Orlando Rescue Mission and Second Harvest Food Bank. If you are interested in putting your name on the list, have questions, or would like more information, email me at [bmoore@pinehurst.net](mailto:bmoore@pinehurst.net). A deposit of \$100. will hold your spot. The total cost of the trip is \$450. This will be due by Sunday, May 5. Please let me know if you are interested.


### **YOUTH MISSION TRIP - NASHVILLE, TN**

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 15 - SUNDAY, JUNE 23

This summer, our youth will be on a mission to Nashville! Our mission will be to share the love of Christ through construction projects, working in community centers, and serving meals. This will be a mission trip only and a good opportunity for our youth to give of themselves to others who are in need. If you are interested in signing up, a \$100 deposit will hold your spot. The total cost of the trip is \$350. A payment schedule for the balance will be sent in Jan/Feb. There are 30 spots for this trip, so sign up soon.

**YOUTH  
BIBLE  
STUDIES**

  
**Pinecrest Boys**  
Tuesdays  
7:45am  
@ Chick-Fil-A

  
**Union Pines**  
Thursdays 7:45am @  
Bojangles, Carthage

  
**Pinecrest Girls**  
Wednesdays  
7:45am  
@ Chick-Fil-A



# CHILDREN & FAMILIES' MINISTRY



Here's what's coming up for the Children & Families' Ministry at First Baptist Church.

## SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday School is provided for all ages beginning at 9:45 on Sunday mornings. During Sunday School, children learn stories from the Bible and how they apply to our lives today.

## MUSIC & MISSIONS - WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Join us on Wednesday nights for Music and Missions. We offer programming for kids ages 3 years old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Here's the schedule:

- 5:00-6:00 PM Supper
- 6:00-7:15 PM Music and Missions
- 6:00-7:15 PM Nursery (for children under 3)

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

**Wednesday, December 6 at 6:00PM**

The children's choirs will be presenting their Christmas Program Wednesday, December 6 in the sanctuary.

## CHILDREN'S ADVENT CELEBRATION

**Wednesday, December 13 — 6:00-7:15 PM**

Join us from 6:00-7:15pm for the Children's Advent Celebration. Our youth will lead children in a variety of activities to celebrate and prepare for the season of Advent. Three-year old's to Kindergarteners will be in their regular classroom, and 1st-5th graders will meet in the youth room.



Trunk or Treat  
2023



## OTHER IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Wednesday, December 13:** Last Night of Activities until January!

**Wednesday, January 10:** Congregational Conversation #2

**Wednesday, January 17:** Regular Wednesday Night Schedule Resumes

## ARE YOU READING TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE NEXT GENERATION?

We are actively seeking volunteers to lead in the Children's Ministry! Here are the specific needs:

**Sunday School Teachers:** We are seeking volunteers who can build relationships with children, point them to Christ, and have a lot of fun while doing so. Our Sunday School teachers work together in teams each week to lead classes of babies, preschoolers, and grade-school kids from 9:45-10:45am using an excellent curriculum which includes creative lessons and activities. Training is provided for these teachers!

## PARENTS, STAY CONNECTED!

Ms. Lauren sends out a weekly email called "Three Things on Thursday" to keep families in the loop and we also have a private Facebook group for FBCSP Kids – Parent Info ([www.facebook.com/groups/fbcspkids](http://www.facebook.com/groups/fbcspkids)).

Praying for you and your family,  
*Lauren Craig,*  
Director of Children and Families' Ministry



RA Football  
Game  
2023



**SENIORS**  
ON THE **MOVE** 

## MUSIC MINISTRY & SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### *Sing the Songs of Bethlehem*

*Presented by the  
Sanctuary Choir and  
instrumentalists of  
First Baptist Church  
Southern Pines, NC*

*December 10, 2023*

*4:00 p.m.*

*in the Church Sanctuary*

*Presenting music by K. Lee Scott,  
Elaine Hagenberg, Lloyd Larson,  
selected scriptures and Christmas  
readings.*

*First Baptist Church  
200 East New York Ave.  
Southern Pines, NC 28387*

*More Information: 910-692-8750*

### **NIXON, BLEVINS AND GAGE IN CONCERT**

We spent a lovely evening with Nixon, Blevins and Gage on Nov. 13th and their musical gifts were a treat for our ears. They picked and sang a number of standards like The Water Is Wide, Warfarin' Stranger, Shady Grove, Deep River Blues and Long Hard Road. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening.



### **SENIORS ON THE MOVE CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Our **Seniors on the Move Christmas Dinner** is scheduled for Monday, December 11th at 5:00 p.m. We will celebrate the season by eating a wonderful meal together, singing carols, enjoying some seasonal special music, and then our gift exchange. When you purchase the gift you are going to share, please spend \$10.00 on an item someone else will *enjoy!* Keep the gifts as generic as possible. Let the fun begin!

Our meal for the evening will be: Ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, rolls, drinks and dessert. The cost of the meal is \$10.00 per person. Please sign up on the bulletin board near the main office. You need to sign up by December 4th so that our caterer can prepare. We order our meals based on your commitment when you sign up. If you sign up please be sure to attend and pay for your meal.

- Greg



# MISSIONS, SERVING & MORE AT FBCSP

## MISSION ACTION GROUP

Mission Action will not meet during December. We encourage the church family to prayerfully consider their Christmas offering to missions: Lottie Moon or CBF Global Missions. Mission Action will resume Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday will be Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Holiday. Thank you for your support of our mission programs.

## FBCSP MISSION SCHOLARSHIP MONIES AT WORK

Below is a excerpt from a letter David received from a scholarship recipient. The full letter is posted on the Missions Board with Sierra's picture. Please stop by and read it.

Dear Dr. Helms,  
My name is Sierra Huffman and I am a ministry student at Campbell University School of Divinity. This is my first semester in a graduate degree program. I would like to start with a thank you for an endowed scholarship I received because of your kindness. The First Baptist Church of Southern Pines Divinity Endowment has been a blessing to me because without it, I could not have pursued anything in ministry.

I am looking toward a Master's of Divinity, hopefully specializing in Youth Ministry. I love working with students between the ages of 11 and 18.

I teach seventh grade students full time at Harnett Central Middle School. With the assistance from the scholarship, I have been able to attend with minimal out of packet expenses.

I truly appreciate how much you have given me and I look forward to a future where I am helping new ministers as well. Please keep me in your prayers.

Blessings,  
Sierra Huffman, MDI

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Each year, our decorating committee incorporates beautiful red and white poinsettias into our Sanctuary Advent decorations. Members are invited to honor, remember, or celebrate a special person or loved one by contributing toward these poinsettias. Each tribute (\$10.00 each) will be printed on a special bulletin insert on Sunday, December 24.

If the honoree is still living, we will be happy to send a card acknowledging your tribute. If the tribute is a memorial, we can send an acknowledgement to a family, if requested.

Please complete the form below, and submit it to the church office ***no later than Tuesday, December 12***. Please include your check for \$10.00 per tribute, made payable to **First Baptist Church**, and designate "**Christmas Poinsettias**" on the memo line. Also, be sure to include the name and mailing address where acknowledgement should be sent, if so desired.

**Donor's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor Of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory Of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Celebration Of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Optional) Acknowledgement To Be Sent To:**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please include street address of PO Box, City, State, and Zip Code.)*

*Remember to enclose a check payable to **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** in the amount of **\$10.00 per tribute** and write "Christmas Poinsettias" on the memo line.*

Thank you!

**Amount of Enclosed Check:**

**Check Number:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# First Baptist Church

*www.fbcsp.org*

200 EAST NEW YORK AVENUE, SOUTHERN PINES, NC 28387

TELEPHONE: 910-692-8750

FAX: 910-693-1161

SONSHINE LEARNING CENTER: 910-692-7912

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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SOUTHERN PINES NC 28387

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## JANUARY ISSUE OF THE TIE

If you have news/information that you would like to submit for the next issue of The Tie, contact Pat Boland at [pboland@fbcsp.org](mailto:pboland@fbcsp.org). The deadline for the December TIE Issue is **December 18**.

## WORSHIP ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday School at 9:45am and Worship Service at 8:30am and 11:00am. We will continue Livestream at 11:00am online.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office hours are 9:00am - 4:30pm on Monday thru Thursday and 9:00am - 12:00pm on Friday.

*Reminder: Church office will be closed **December 22, 25, and 26** for Christmas.*

## CHURCH STAFF

**Michael Cogdill**, Transitional Pastor - [mcogdill@fbcsp.org](mailto:mcogdill@fbcsp.org)

**Jamie Kipfer**, Minister of Education & Administration - [jkipfer@fbcsp.org](mailto:jkipfer@fbcsp.org)

**Greg Lundberg**, Minister of Music & Senior Adults - [glundberg@fbcsp.org](mailto:glundberg@fbcsp.org)

**Bryan Moore**, Minister of Youth & Students - [bmoore@fbcsp.org](mailto:bmoore@fbcsp.org)

**Lauren Craig**, Director of Children & Families' Ministry - [lcraig@fbcsp.org](mailto:lcraig@fbcsp.org)

**Bethany Saburro**, Executive Administrative Assistant - [bsaburro@fbcsp.org](mailto:bsaburro@fbcsp.org)

**Annette Saunders**, Financial Administrator - [asaunders@fbcsp.org](mailto:asaunders@fbcsp.org)

**Pat Boland**, Financial & Administrative Assistant - [pboland@fbcsp.org](mailto:pboland@fbcsp.org)

**Susan Galbreith**, Food Services Director - [susang@fbcsp.org](mailto:susang@fbcsp.org)

**Patricia Teague**, Food Services Assistant

**Cathy Haynes**, Organist / Pianist

**Luke & Alison Arno**, Youth Music Coordinators

**Amy Chavis**, Director, Sonshine Learning Center - [slcamychavis@gmail.com](mailto:slcamychavis@gmail.com)