



THE TIE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SOUTHERN PINES



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THOUGHTS FROM OUR TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

A Plan for the New Year!

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”
(Proverbs 3:5-6)

Welcome to the New Year - 2024! All about us are predictions and forecasts for the New Year. There are predictions for politics, for the economy, for the job market, and even predictions that involve the weather. But, as we know, it is hard to predict exactly what will transpire in a new calendar year.

A new year not only brings predictions but also hopes. We have hopes and dreams for ourselves, our families, and our futures. Some might be dreaming of retirement in the new year while others may be hoping for the first “dream job” to materialize. At First Baptist Church, we have the hope that God will lead our Pastor - Search Team to the right person God has called to serve this church as its next Senior Pastor.

One thing is likely certain relative to our lives in 2024

– not everything we are involved in will go according to plan. There will be detours, roadblocks, and setbacks along the way. But we are not “orphans in a storm.” As Christian believers, we have guides to help us, and none are more reliable than God’s presence through the Holy Spirit and his words to us in the Bible. These are our “star in the East,” guiding us to our true destinations.

Thus, let Proverbs 3:5-6 be your guiding verses for this year: “To trust in the Lord with all of you heart; to lean not to your own understanding, and in all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths!” What great guiding verses for a new year!

And perhaps let this word from the Apostle Paul be an added guide and anchor for you: “Stand firm. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. Your labor for the Lord is not in vain.”
(I Cor 15: 58).

Now this is a Plan!

Michael G. Cogdill,
Transitional Pastor



JOYS, CONCERNS, NOTES

RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS

George Griffin

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- to David and Carolyn Helms upon the dying unto Christ of David's sister, Dawn Courtney, on 12/16.

- to Cheryl Clark upon the dying unto Christ of her brother-in-law, Roy Schlenshker, on 12/18.

NOTES OF GRATITUDE

Dear Friends at First Baptist Church of Southern Pines, Thank you for your generous gift. For over 25 years the Boys and Girls Club has provided young people of Moore County with a safe place to spend time with friends and to learn important life skills. First Baptist has been a partner for much of that time, thank you. Since opening we have served over 12, 000 young people and their families. Now we begin setting our sights on the next 25 years. The challenges will be different but our core values stay the same. The Boys & Girls Club of the Sandhills was founded with the mission to inspire, enable, and educate young people from all backgrounds and circumstances to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. As long as we stay true to these principles, I believe we will continue to thrive well into the future. Thank you for your generous and enduring support. We are grateful for all the support from our friends at First Baptist Church. Thank you!

Sincerely, John Earp, Director of Development

Thank you for your support of Sandhills/Moore Coalition for Human Care! We are grateful for our generous community. It is because of you and our dedicated volunteers that were able to continue providing food, clothing, and financial assistance to struggling households in Moore County, many who had never needed our assistance before the events of the past couple of years. Thank you again for your support! If we can ever be of assistance, don't be afraid to reach out.

Sincerely, Stephen Phillips

Hi First Baptist Church of Southern Pines,
On behalf of Changing Destinies staff, I would like to thank you for attending our first annual Disco Sneakers Benefit on

November 3, 2023. We are so happy you chose to spend an evening celebrating with us. Thank you for the donation, it will help us move closer to opening Rachel's Refuge, a restoration and reintegration shelter in Moore County. We hope you had a fun evening.

Warm regards, Kym Nixon, Executive Director, Changing Destinies Ministry

Thank you very much for your donation to the Carthage Food Pantry. We are preparing for our largest distribution of the year. We expect to serve 250 households.

Thanks and God Bless, Jim C

Dear Friend of Bethany,

We are most thankful for your gift to The Bethany House, Inc. Your thoughtful and kind donation will help women have a better quality of life.

Most Sincerely, Iris Dickerson

Dear Friends of Family Promise,

Thank you so much for the financial support of our mission to help families experiencing homelessness. I am so thankful for this blessing, the volunteers, and prayers for Family Promise.

Sincerely, Peggy Hendrix Executive Director

THANKSGIVING WREATHS

There were several "Thank you's" from the church members that received Thanksgiving wreaths made by our children. Comments like "They are beautiful!" "Thank you for thinking of me." "This wreath makes me smile every time I look at it." "You are all kind to remember me in this special way." "Please convey my thanks to the children for the Thanksgiving wreath. I am sure they worked hard on it."

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Giving Goals for DEC. 17, 2023	38,285.95
Budget Offerings Received on DEC. 17, 2023	25,591.25
Total Budget Offerings Received in 2023	1,208,678.42
Giving Goal Thru DEC. 17, 2023	1,268,765.92
Receipts to Date Comparison with Goal:	(60,087.50)



NEWS & NOTES FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION & ADMINISTRATION

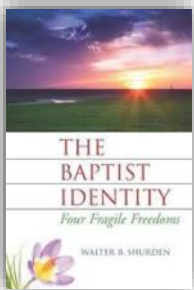
Regular Evening Programs Return January 17

- Wednesday Suppers - 5:00 pm
- Wednesday Night Bridgepoints - 6:00 pm

WINTER BRIDGEPOINT

The Baptist Identity: Four Fragile Freedoms

This four-week study answers the question, ‘What makes a Baptist a Baptist?’ Guided by Walter Shurden’s classic book, *The Baptist Identity: Four Fragile Freedoms*, we will explore four basic ‘freedoms’ celebrated by Baptists throughout their history. Those who are new to Baptist life and those who have been Baptist all their lives are welcome to join us as we learn the core of what it means to be Baptist and why there is much to celebrate in this tradition. Copies of the accompanying book can be purchased at the church for \$10. Please contact Pat Boland for more information about the book (pboland@fbccsp.org).



Facilitators: Mike Cogdill & Jamie Kipfer

Times: Wednesdays, 6 pm

Dates: January 17 - February 7

Location: Room 216

This study will be recorded for those who cannot attend in person. You can find the link to watch at www.fbccsp.org/bridgepointrecordings.

Recordings will be posted each week a few days after the study takes place.

SUNDAY SCHOOL GUIDE INFORMATION

The Connections Sunday School Study Guide and Reflections devotional are available electronically in both an .epub and .mobi (Kindle) formats. If you would like to use the electronic versions, email jkipfer@fbccsp.org to be added to the distribution lists. Materials are published three times per year. The current series is for January through April 2024.

REMINDER

January 10 is the second Congregational Conversation Meeting begins at 6:00pm.





FBCSPYG HAPPENINGS



JANUARY 2024 SCHEDULE

Sundays 7, 14, 21	
Sunday School	9:45-10:45am
JuBELLation	4:00-4:45pm
Youth Choir (9-12)	5:00-6:00pm
Youth Bible Study (6-8)	5:00-6:00pm
Youth Supper (6-12)	6:00-6:30pm
Youth Choir (6-8)	6:30-7:30pm
Youth Bible Study (9-12)	6:30-7:30pm
Sunday, January 28	
Worship	8:30am
Sunday School	9:45-10:45am
Worship	11:00am
JuBellation	4:00-4:45pm
Youth Choir (6-12)	5:00-6:00pm
Youth Supper	6:00-6:30pm
Youth Crazy Night	6:30-7:30pm

YOUTH OUTREACH PROJECTS 2024

Jan. 1-30	Community Coat Drive - Youth will collect coats for area Middle and Elementary schools.
Jan. 14	College Care Packages - Youth will send care packages to our college students to brighten their day.
Feb. 17	Roadside Trash Pickup - Youth help clean up the community by picking up trash on the roadside between the church and US 1
Mar. 1-31	Community Food Drive - Youth will collect food for the Sandhills Coalition of SP.
Jun. 24-28	Vacation Bible School - more information coming.

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. 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

* Note Bible Study will start back up on January 9.



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 will start our Wednesday nights back up January 17, 2024. We offer programming for kids ages 3 years old to 5th 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)

CHURCH-WIDE GAME NIGHT: BINGO!

Friday, January 26 – 6:00pm
Join us on Friday, January 26 at 6:00pm for a Church-Wide Game Night: BINGO! in the Fellowship Hall at FBCSP. Please sign up by Wednesday, January 24 to let us know you will be attending at www.bit.ly/fbcgamenight



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024! SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for Monday, June 24 to Friday, June 28 for VBS! Registration will open first to the FBCSP congregation/families and Sunshine Learning Center students in early March. Registration will open to the greater community in April.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

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).

Please contact Ms. Lauren, lcraig@fbcsp.org or 336-971-0900, if you are willing and able to serve in any of these areas.

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



SENIORS
ON THE **MOVE** 

MUSIC MINISTRY & SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Christmas Music and activities at First Baptist Church!!!

One Voice

Mini Music Makers - Children's Christmas Program



The Sanctuary Choir - Sing the Songs of Bethlehem



JuBELLation



Young Musicians - Children's Christmas Program



Seniors on the Move - Christmas Dinner



VISION



ACTION

MISSIONS, SERVING & MORE AT FBCSP

MISSION ACTION GROUP

Mission Action learned about the AYU Sewing Project in Indonesia from Melissa Richardson, IMB missionary to Indonesia. Many of us did some Christmas shopping among the items: table runners, aprons, scarves, etc. Reminder: we will resume meeting in January but on the 4th Monday to respect the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday on the 3rd Monday.

Mission Action November Meeting



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 302 SHOEBOXES!



Thank you, church family! We packed **302** shoeboxes! Thank you to our youth and children who packed 180 of the shoeboxes we received, at their packing party. Our prayer is

that the shoeboxes we packed will bring joy and the love of Jesus to the children who received them. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

PRISON MINISTRY

The Kairos Prison Ministry at the Scotland Correctional Institute in Laurinburg, NC, volunteers thank you for your \$400 contribution. The Kairos mission is to share God's Agape Love with both the inmates and SCI staff through God's Word and promise that He cares and has a plan for everyone. We share Agape through letters, talks, meditations, prayer, and scripture during structured 3.5 Day Events and weekly Prayer and Share.

Please pray with us for sufficient volunteers and resources to host an Inside 3.5 Day Event March 7-10, 2024. This is our first 3.5 Day Event since the fall of 2018. COVID and SCI staff shortages prohibited the events that are the foundation for the Kairos Mission to share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the lives of the incarcerated, their families and the staff.

Good food is a key portion of the ministry since the inmates live in a very disciplined environment combined with bland inexpensive food. Please pray for a successful Inside Event in March where lives are changed through the power of the Holy Spirit. We will be contacting SS classes for the creation of a Prayer Chain, for colorful individual place mats, and for meal tickets to help with funding. Please pray and let me know if you can be a volunteer for our Inside or Support Team. There are mandatory training sessions on Jan 6 and 20 plus on Feb 3 and 17. We have cabins reserved at Camp Monroe. My experience is that the blessing that you receive from serving far exceeds your contributions.

Rick Allenbaugh, Chair, Kairos SCI Prison Ministry, Advisory Council



First Baptist Church

www.fbcsp.org

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FEBRUARY 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. The deadline for the FEBRUARY TIE Issue is **January 17, 2024**.

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 **January 1, in observance of New Years Day and Monday, January 15, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.***

CHURCH STAFF

Michael Cogdill, Transitional Pastor - mcogdill@fbcsp.org

Jamie Kipfer, Minister of Education & Administration - jkipfer@fbcsp.org

Greg Lundberg, Minister of Music & Senior Adults - glundberg@fbcsp.org

Bryan Moore, Minister of Youth & Students - bmoore@fbcsp.org

Lauren Craig, Director of Children & Families' Ministry - lcraig@fbcsp.org

Bethany Saburro, Executive Administrative Assistant - bsaburro@fbcsp.org

Annette Saunders, Financial Administrator - asaunders@fbcsp.org

Pat Boland, Financial & Administrative Assistant - pboland@fbcsp.org

Susan Galbreith, Food Services Director - 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