



# The Clarion

consecration. celebration. connection. commission.

December 13, 2020

## A 'Different' Christmas



“Like Mama always said...” Most of us have used this line from the movie *Forrest Gump* many times. We remember the wise sayings uttered by our mothers which have shaped the way we live and the people we have become. I frequently remember one of my mother’s sayings and it seems especially appropriate this year.

Like Mama always said, “Different is not necessarily wrong. It’s just different.” Mom said this to challenge or correct my thinking about ‘different’. It’s easy to think that when things are different, they are not ‘right’. Mom’s point was for me to slow down, not rush to judgment, and consider that the ‘different’ I was experiencing was not wrong, just different.

Christmas 2020 is just ‘different’. We’re feeling the difference in our family Christmas plans and our church family plans. Our family gatherings are different than usual. Some families are planning a scaled down version of getting together for food, fellowship, and exchanging gifts. Due to COVID, some families will not gather outside their immediate households. Our church’s Christmas ministries are not like we prefer. Our choir cannot bring us their usual Christmas musical. Many Sunday School classes are not having their Christmas parties. And our entire church family cannot gather in person this season because of legitimate health concerns. It’s all very ‘different’.

But this different is not wrong. That’s because Jesus is the same and His gospel is the same. The ways in which we celebrate Christmas are different, but the truth of Christmas remains sure. God loves sinners like you and me. God sacrificially gave His Son Jesus to die and rise again that we might be forgiven and have eternal life. This gospel has not and will not change! Thanks be to God.

So...let’s make the most of this ‘different’ Christmas. Let’s embrace it and be creative in celebrating Jesus and His love for us and all mankind. Look for Jesus to reveal Himself in fresh ways never thought possible before now.

**Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!** (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Cecil Sanders



## Christmas Eve Service Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM

### In-person Service

Limited Seating, so tickets are required. Please pick up tickets at the Church Office or Worship Center Foyer Desk. Please take only what you will need so others may attend.

### Online Service

Facebook: FBC Headland, Alabama; YouTube: FBC Headland

If your family chooses to observe *The Lord’s Supper* during the online service, you may provide your own elements or secure these from the Church Office during regular office hours. Families may also choose to have candles available to light at home during the closing of the service.

Bridge to Tomorrow Fund	
Giving 12-6-2020	\$1,640.00
Total Giving to Date	\$640,634.44
9-28-2020 Fund Balance	\$51,580.43

Our People Gave December 6, 2020	
Weekly Need	\$22,317.74
Weekly Received	\$33,627.00
Over (Under) Budget	\$11,309.26
2020 Year-To-Date	
Budget Required	\$1,093,569.26
Budget Received	\$1,066,191.69
Over (Under)	(\$27,377.57)
Worship 12-6-2020	225
Lottie Moon	\$132,263.82

**Services Online**  
[www.fbcheadland.com](http://www.fbcheadland.com)  
 FBC Headland  
*(YouTube/Facebook)*

**Sunday**  
 10:00 AM Worship Service

**Monday**  
 Weekly Announcements &  
 Devotion

**Wednesday**  
 6:00 PM Devotional &  
 Prayer Time

**FBC Staff**

**Cecil Sanders**  
 Senior Pastor

**Mike Wehner**  
 Associate Pastor

**Joel Tucker**  
 Minister of Students, IT & Events

**Tim Gay**  
 Minister of Music & Senior Adults

**Kimberly Grandstaff**  
 CDC & Children's Ministry Director  
 693-3599

**Heather Armstrong**  
 Church Secretary

**Carlando Hope**  
 Media Secretary

**Pam Ellison**  
 Financial Secretary

**Richard Kohl**  
 Licensed Professional Counselor  
 For appointment  
 (334) 722-9097

**Church Office Hours:**  
**Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM**  
**Church Office Number: 334-693-3220**



**First Baptist Church**  
 301 East Church Street  
 Headland, AL 36345  
 Phone: (334) 693-3220  
 Fax: (334) 693-3641  
[www.fbcheadland.com](http://www.fbcheadland.com)

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**Third Sunday of Advent**  
 December 13, 2020  
*Logan & Meredith Humphries*



**LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®**  
**FBC Goal: \$85,000.00 Offering to Date: \$132,263.82**

**Wednesday Night Prayer & Bible Study will not meet on Dec. 23 or 30.**

**2020 End-of-Year Giving**

Thank you for your faithful giving throughout the year. Please remember that the IRS requires any cash gift credited to the 2020 tax year must be turned in to the Church office no later than Thursday, December 31, 2020. If you mail your gift to the church, the postmark on the envelope must be on or before December 31, 2020. Any stock donations must be received either at the church or transferred and posted to our brokerage account by December 31, 2020. Online giving must be posted to our bank account by December 31, 2020, in order for it to be counted in your 2020 giving. Please note that online giving takes several days to post to our bank after you have made the donation online.

**JINGLE MINGLE 2020**  
*(The one where we all wore masks!)*

**DEC 13 • 6 PM**

**Student Ministry**

**Gift card exchange**

**Prizes • Snacks**

**Christmas bingo**