You shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord your God has given to you.

Deuteronomy 26:11, ESV
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF
Tim Marsh
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Alison Moore
Pianist
Debbie Turner
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Garry Cuthbertson
Custodian
George Hughes
Grounds Maintenance

IN MEMORIAM
Elizabeth McEntire Barbee
February 11, 1925-November 11, 2017

The love and concern of the church family is extended to her daughter, Terry Payne.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK
November 19...............Ben Morris
November 21............Zeke Stephenson
........................................Johnie Boulton
..........................................Angie Ruppe
November 22...Katy Higgins Roper
.........................................Joan Watson
November 23.........Lynn Blanton
...........................................Joanne Beasley
November 24........Sarah Jones
........................................Beth Heffner
November 25........George Lorber

USHERS FOR NOVEMBER
Team 1: George Hughes, Todd Hodge, Jamie Knox, Seth Parton, Rusty Washburn, Bruce Boone, Griggs McKinnon, John Henry Deaver

DEACON AT THE DOOR
Henry Giles

COLLEGE STUDENT
Sarah Daniel
Appalachian State University
ASU Box 11420
Boone, NC 28608
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ASU

ACOLYTES
November 19........Aidan Ledbetter
..............................................Lillian Beheler
November 26.........Natalie Marsh
........................................Melanie Huneycutt

JOY GROUP
The JOY Group will be traveling to the COMMA Auditorium in Morganton on Saturday, December 9, to see the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church present “Elf.”
Eugene the Elf sets out on a musical adventure to find his heavenly father and to discover his purpose in life. A high energy family Christmas program.
Tickets are $7.47 per person tax included (note price change).
Bus will leave the church at 2 PM and we will have dinner at Judges following the program.

RUTHERFORDTON COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE
Today at 4 PM
St. Francis Episcopal Church
Join us this afternoon for a special time of worship as we come together as a community to worship, give thanks and celebrate all that God has done. An offering will be received for a local ministry. Thank you for your participation!

POINSETTIAS
Beginning with the Hanging-of-the-Greens Service on Sunday evening, December 3, poinsettias will be used in the Sanctuary for the Christmas season. The poinsettias will remain in the Sanctuary throughout the month of December and will probably not be useful after that time.
If you would like to place a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of someone, would you please fill out the form below and return it to the Church Office with a check for $16.00 (payable to First Baptist Church) by Wednesday, November 22. The Decorations Committee will purchase the poinsettias and arrange them. A list of names will be published in the bulletin during the Christmas season.

In Memory of

__________________________________________________________

In Honor of

__________________________________________________________

Placed by

__________________________________________________________

Please return to Church Office with $16.00 by November 22.

Records for November 12, 2017
Sunday School Attendance.......110
Morning Worship Attendance .163
Budget Requirements.......$8,664.00
Budget Offering..............$6,409.20
Special Offerings ...........$1,028.60
Total .........................$7,437.80

Budget to Date
Required by 11-12-17 ...$60,648.00
Received by 11-12-17 ...$59,823.35

Building Fund
Received ......................$351.00
Capital Campaign ................$25.00
To Date ....................$413,152.71
PASTOR’S COLUMN

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NRSV)

Every powerful motivational speech prior to a game, match, contest, exam, important event always contains a few reminders. Whether it is dance, music, sports, an audition, an interview or an exam, motivation comes from a few reminders. First, we are reminded where we came from. We are reminded of the work that we put into the task. We are reminded of the sacrifices others made to get us to where we are. And, we are reminded of the obstacles we overcame to get there. Second, we are reminded of what’s at stake in our performance. Whether it’s winning the game, landing the job, being selected for the audition, what’s at stake in the moment to come is always important. Third, we are reminded of our opponents. It could be those who say we cannot win. We cannot succeed. And, we are reminded of the reasons that they are saying so. And, just before the speech ends, we are reminded of the key lessons, habits and advice we’ve received that will help us achieve our goal.

As Paul comes to the end of a letter to the Thessalonian church—his first of thirteen letters we have in the New Testament—he concludes his letter with a string of imperatives. It’s these imperatives that will help the Thessalonian Church survive and thrive in the midst of a fallen world. One of these imperatives is to “give thanks in all circumstances…” He follows with the reminder that this is the will of God.

How do we hear that verse? Give thanks in all circumstances. On Sunday, November 5, the First Baptist Church of Sutherland, Texas experienced an unspeakable and inexplicable tragedy. We’ve seen national and international tragedies such as these. However, there are also personal tragedies. We lose a loved one. We watch a child die. We experience a life-altering diagnosis at a routine physician’s visit. How can we possibly give thanks in the midst of these circumstances?

Thanksgiving is a discipline as much as it is a reaction. We think of giving thanks as a reaction to good circumstances. As a discipline, thanksgiving is a reminder to see the world not as we experience it, but as God has made it. We are seeing the world through the lens of the death, resurrection, reign and return of Jesus Christ. In that world, tragedy hurts, death causes grief, pain depresses, and sickness isolates. They do all this. But they never have the final word.

Therefore, give thanks!

Grace and peace,
Tim

CALLING ALL FIREWOOD CUTTERS!!!
Saturday, December 2, 8:30 AM at V.O. and Jane Cline’s house at 201 Westbrook Drive, Rutherfordton, all firewood cutters in our church are asked to bring the needed equipment to cut up three HUGE oak trees that have fallen behind their house. A dump truck will be provided to haul the wood, and those who have wood splitters are asked to bring those as well. Many of you will remember Randall and Cynthia Cooper who were in our church some 7—8 years ago. He is pastor of Race Path Baptist Church in the Ellenboro area. She works with Chase Corner Ministries. The wood will be delivered to CCM for them to distribute. They are working on some folks from their church to come and help as well. John Blanton will be guiding this project. This project likely will go into the early afternoon, so lunch will be provided. It will help to know how to plan for the meal if you will email the church, call the church 286-9047, call John Blanton at 429-9803, email Billy Honeycutt at honeycuttbilly@bellsouth.net or call him at 287-7214 or 980-3710. Call John or Billy with your questions.

SOUP FOR YOKEFELLOW
September—October Soup Goal: 60
September—October Soup Donations: 139
November Soup Goal: 30
November Soup Donations: 15

You met the September and October goals with flying colors! Please continue to remember soup for the needy. Thank you for your generous contributions to this vital ministry!

YOUTH NEWS
SUNDAYS/WEDNESDAYS
With the holiday season approaching, we will not be having our regular Sunday/Wednesday night programs (except for the dates listed below). Youth are encouraged to attend and participate in church-wide activities/programs.
November 29 (Wednesday): Youth game night
December 6 (Wednesday): Youth Christmas Party (bring a $5.00 or less gift)

WINTERSPREE & PASSPORT DEPOSITS
All spots for WinterSpree need to be finalized by the end of November. We still have TWO OPEN SPOTS left for Passport if anyone’s interested.

NUMBERED ENVELOPES
TODAY is the last chance to give to this youth fundraiser. Thank you for all the support you’ve given so far!
Greetings and Announcements

Leader: The Lord is Risen!

People: He is Risen indeed!

Lighting the Acolyte Candles

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” arr. Raney/Sherman
First Ringers Handbell Choir
Alison Moore, Piano and Ken West, Organ

*Hymn 61 “We Gather Together” KREMSER
*Invocation Henry Giles

REMEMBER AND GIVE THANKS

Children’s Message John Miller
Voluntary “Count Your Blessings” arr. Cota
First Ringers Handbell Choir
The Morning Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

*Hymn of Offertory 376 “For the Fruit of Every Nation” AR HYD Y NOS
*Scripture and Prayer of Offertory Deuteronomy 15:7 Isaac Hughes
Offertory

HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

The Written Word Luke 17:11-19 Tim Marsh
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem “Now Thank We All Our God” arr. Rosewall
Youth Choir
(Text is Hymn #371)

The Spoken Word “Faith and Thanksgiving” Tim Marsh

Ordinance of the Lord’s Supper
Partaking of the Bread
Partaking of the Cup

GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE

* Benediction
* Departing Song 267 “Blest Be the Tie” DENNIS
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above. Amen.

*CCLI#1858884

*Postlude

*Congregation Standing
**Please remember to silence your cell phones or electronic devices**

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

In the month of October, the church received $37,427.25 in undesignated tithes and offerings. This amount was $116.08 less than the funds necessary for the church to meet required budgeted amounts in October. Year to date our tithes and offerings are $116.08 behind budget.

In October the church actually paid out $34,539.50, giving the church a year to date cash surplus of $3,004.00. As a best practice the church has voted to maintain two months-worth of operating expenses in budget reserve. As of the end of October, our budget reserve was in a surplus position in relation to this expectation.

In October the church gave $4,987.07 towards Missions. $2,112.07 of this originated from the budget, and $2,875.00 was from special or designated offerings. The three largest recipients of our Missions giving in October were Campus Outreach, Hai Huyhn in Vietnam and Ben O’Kello in Kenya.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN WOMEN

Fellowship of Christian Women will have a dinner meeting Monday, November 20 at 6 PM at First Wesleyan Church in Forest City. The November project is making a donation to the Grace of God Rescue Mission’s Thanksgiving meal.

NEWS FROM GRACE OF GOD RESCUE MISSION

The mission had nineteen residents this month. There were nine men and ten staying at Gail’s House for women. Five found employment and there was one who accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. There was also one who rededicated their life to Christ.

“I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.” Psalm 91:2