

# INFORMER

*...a note from our Pastor*

A leadership “guru” I frequently read, Dave Redding, uses the image of a championship rowing team as a picture of a healthy organization. Not all the leadership articles I read apply to churches because churches are such unique entities, but Redding’s rowing team image is spot on when it comes to healthy church life.

For a rowing team to be successful every member must be willing to give their all, row as hard they can, and (this is so important) **ROW IN THE SAME DIRECTION**. Let’s break this down a bit: First, a team will not be highly successful if each person doesn’t give their all. Every team member must be sold out to the mission of the team. If you have someone who is “just along for the ride” the whole team will suffer, because the other teammates must pull this person’s dead weight. Everyone must give it their all or the whole team suffers. Second, you certainly can’t have someone rowing in the opposite direction. This person is worse than the “just along for the ride” teammate who doesn’t give 100%. The “opposite direction rower” is more than dead weight; he or she is an opposing force, pulling the team away from its goal, or at the very least, dramatically slowing the team down as they fight to overcome the “opposite direction” negative force. *(continued)*



But what is glorious and effective is when everyone rows as hard as they can in the same direction toward the same goal. And that is what I have seen in the fellowship and ministry of our church recently. The best example of this occurred on Sunday November 19. Remember that day? It was the Sunday before Thanksgiving and it was glorious. Everyone involved, worshippers and worship leaders, gave it their all toward the same goal: to give of our best to the Master as we praised and glorified God.

The congregation participated and sang with great enthusiasm. The choir was outstanding and sang with joy. Our pianist and organist were cooking on their keyboards. Our soloist sang with excellence and passion. The sound and media technicians didn't miss a beat. And this happened twice! Sunday morning and Sunday night. What a day!

It is a thrill to be a part of a team that is working as hard as they can in the same direction. It makes me smile. More important, it must make God smile. As Psalm 133 says, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!" Let's all keep rowing as hard as we can in the same direction. It brings joy.

Phillip

**The offering envelopes are in the hallway.**

# **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Week of Prayer for International Missions**

**December 3 – December 10  
Goal \$15,017**

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***Donuts with Deacons  
Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
9:15 am Fellowship Hall***

## **Poinsettias**

If you would like to order a Poinsettia for the Sanctuary in memory of or in honor of a loved one please complete the form and return it to the church office by December 8<sup>th</sup> with your payment of \$14.00. We have printed separate forms for "in memory of" and "in honor of". Please make sure you fill out the proper form. The forms are located in the front of the sanctuary.



***Our Deepest Sympathy  
to the families of***

***Michael Elkins  
&  
Jimmy Strange***

# SUNDAY MEETINGS

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Search Committee Meeting**

**5:00 pm**

**Trustee Meeting**

**7:00 pm**

**December 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Finance Meeting**

**4:00 PM**

**Church Council Meeting**

**5:00 PM**

## *CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE*

Sunday, December 10

6:00 pm Adult Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 13

6:00 pm Children's Christmas Program

7:00 pm Christmas Covered Dish

with a special visitor from the North Pole.

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

11:00 am Worship Service

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service with Communion

No Evening Activities

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day - Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26

Church Office Closed

Monday, January 1

New Year's Day - Church Office Closed

Weekly Offering 2017-2018

Weekly Budget \$12,020

Offering Received:

October 22 \$ 7,212

October 29 \$ 5,963

November 5 \$22,149

November 12 \$ 8,232

November 19 \$ 9,189

<i>Sunday School &amp; Worship Attendance</i>		
<i>Date</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>11:00 am</i>
10/29	119	169
11/05	139	174
11/12	130	168
11/19	132	178
11/26	113	168

## *2018 Flower Calendar*

Jan	7	14*	21	28	
Feb	4	11	18*	25	
Mar	4	11	18	25	
Apr	1*	8	15*	22	29*
May	6*	13	20	27	
June	3	10	17	24	
July	1	8*	15	22*	29*
Aug	5	12*	19	26	
Sept	2	9	16*	23*	30*
Oct	7*	14	21	28	
Nov	4	11	18*	25	
Dec	2*	9*	16*	23*	30*

- denotes date taken

## *Quarterly Business Minutes*

**November 8, 2017**

Frank Jones, Moderator, presided over the November business conference. Minutes of the October meeting were approved as printed. There was no new business and an item of old business will come up with Trustees report. The following committee reports were given: (unless otherwise stated the person giving the report is chair of the committee).

**Music:** Lee Stogner, Worship Leader, announced that Methodist and Presbyterian choirs have been asked to join our choir for the Thanksgiving service, which will be held at 6:30 on Sunday night, November 19<sup>th</sup>. The Sanctuary choir Christmas music will be on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Deacons:** David Richburg brought a motion from deacons to employ a Minister to Families. The purpose, qualifications, supervisor, and responsibilities are given in the job description, which is attached. A copy is available in the office. Following some clarification, the body voted unanimously to proceed with a search committee, which was named at this time. This committee consists of: Deacons Michael Johnson and Doug Strickland, Trustee F. B. Jones, Personnel Gene Benfield, Finance Jimmy Thompson and at-large Ashley DuBose and Shelley Richburg. This committee was elected unanimously.

**Trustees:** Richard Taylor, speaking for the chair, said the roof work project should begin by end of November. They have been trying, to no avail, to get Duke Energy to cut lights in Sears side parking lot back on. Working with them has been very difficult. The sills under the stained glass windows in the sanctuary all had wood decay. All have been replaced and painted. Carpet on the steps coming into the hall leading to Fellowship Hall will be replaced. Trustees are suggesting that we take another look at our policy for

allowing non-members to use our facilities. A very difficult situation was avoided recently. This statement led to discussion about security in general and this committee is working on this.

**Finance:** Frank Jones reported that our receipts exceeded our expenses for the month of October by \$1,415.36. Our giving is about \$16,000 under budget to date. So far our spending has also been less than budgeted but this will change when a new minister is employed. Our Harvest Fund offering for the month was \$3,552.26, and Mission Partners contributions were \$525.

**Nominating:** David Baker thanked Martin Beatson for filling an unexpired term, thanked Roy Fletcher, Glenn Quattlebaum and Honri Jones for full-term service, Honri having been chair two of these years. The body approved the following new members of the Nominating Committee: David Baker and Linda Richburg. The additions to the August Nominating report that were approved were: Youth Sunday School teachers Angie Johnson and Deborah Ridgeway, WMU Mission organization teachers: Glenn Beatson, Saralynn Beatson, Pam Stephens, Pat Dubose and Kay Jones.

**Personnel:** Gene Benfield announced that Winn Todd has been employed as the ministerial assistant/receptionist. She will begin work on Monday, the 13<sup>th</sup> of November. Shelley Richburg will be helping for a total of 5 hours per week with media, the church web page, Facebook, and other duties in the church office.

**Senior Adult Luncheons:** Peggy Lester announced that the next one would be in spring.

**Senior Adult Travel:** Anita Ard reported that 6 attended the associational lunch at Pinewood Baptist on October 7<sup>th</sup>. So far she has 38 going to Myrtle Beach for the Christmas programs.

WMU: Honri Jones reported the following activities for the quarter: Assisted with auction for residents at Windsor Manor Nursing Home; initiated GA, RA, and Acteen mission organizations for our children and youth; attended an associational fall training session; contributed to our state foster children's ministry; filled duffel bags with clothing, school supplies toiletries, and toys for our local DSS foster children program; baked cakes and assisted at the lunch for the carnival workers in Sumter; held a WOM retreat; shared info on Janie Chapman State Missions and exceeded our goal with our offering of \$4,259; sent hats knitted by Mary Queen to Seafarers ministry in Charleston and filled & delivered candy treat bags to all our local first responders in appreciation of their service.

Report from Santee Baptist Fall meeting: Honri Jones reported that our church was presented a plaque for having made substantial financial contributions to Connie Maxwell Children's Home during its 125 year history. Tony Atkinson for Connie Maxwell made the presentation. This is quite an honor for our church.

This concluded our conference.

Submitted by,  
Mary Alice Ipock, Clerk

A note from the clerk: Thank all of you who bring a print out of your report for me. Please remember that if you make a report, you should have a copy for me. This is so there will be no misunderstanding of what was said. Thank you so very much, Mary Alice



The  
Friendship  
House is in  
need of  
men's shoes.

### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

**Dec. 03:** Need Volunteers

**Dec. 10:** Need Volunteers

**Dec. 17:** Need Volunteers

**Dec. 24:** Need Volunteers

**Dec. 31:** Need Volunteers

### **NURSERY WORKERS**

**Dec. 03:** Lynn Berry & Stacy Farley

**Dec. 10:** Lisa Williams & Saralyn Beatsor

**Dec. 17:** Ashley DuBose & Ellen Taylor

**Dec. 24:** Pat DuBose & Beth Ross

**Dec. 31:** Beverly Foraker & Carrie Trahar

### **DEACON OF THE WEEK**

**Dec. 03:** Kevin Ross, 473-8187

**Dec. 10:** Neil Beard, 460-2828

**Dec. 17:** Doug Strickland, 404-219-9034

**Dec. 24:** Gerald Wilder, 843-426-2456

**Dec. 31:** David Baker, 460-6615

### **HALL MONITORS**

**Dec. 03 AM & PM:** Marion DuBose

**Dec. 10 AM & PM:** Michael Johnson

**Dec. 17 AM & PM:** Frank Jones

**Dec. 24 AM & PM:** LeBon Joye

**Dec. 31 AM:** Jeff Lee

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### **Men's Prayer Breakfast**

*Tuesday, December 5, 2017*

*7:30 am @ Shoney's*

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### **Royal Servants**

*Tuesday, December 5, 2017*

*3:00 pm - Heritage Hall*

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### **Praying Hands**

*December 12, 2017*

*6:00 pm*

*Chris Emory's house*

## ***Thank You...***

Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you for the wonderful meal the bereavement committee prepared for our family. We were most appreciative. Your kindness will be long remembered.

Bill Perry's daughters,  
Jean, Elaine, & Cheryl

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\*\*This thank you note was meant for the September newsletter. We regret it was an oversight on our part.

FBC Office Staff

Dear Church Family,

I can't begin to tell you how much we appreciate the outpouring of your love and concern that was shown to us at the passing of my beautiful sister, Bobbie Reaves. The cards, calls, visits, food, memorials, and especially your prayers overwhelmed us. Thank you for sharing your love and concern. We love our church and our church people and are proud to be a part of such a loving and caring church. Thanks again and may God bless each one of you. We love you all.

Violet Moody

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Dear First Baptist Friends,

We thank you for allowing the Gideons to speak in your loving church. You have always received us well and supported us through your offerings. Your recent donation of \$1,280.00 was very generous. This amount will allow us to distribute 948 new testaments or 256 full bibles to those who do not have a bible of their own. Of the 43 churches we speak at in Clarendon County, Manning First Baptist continues to be near the top in support of the Gideons. Thank you, Thank you!! To God be the glory, great things He has done.

Clarendon Gideon Camp

Dear First Baptist Church Family,

I would like to thank you for all of your cards, prayers, and kindness shown to me. I appreciate you all so very much.

Sincerely,  
David Ridgill

## **December**

### **Read the Bible Through**

Dec. 1 – Daniel 5-6: 2 Peter 3

Dec. 2 – Daniel 7-8: 1 John 1

Dec. 3 – Daniel 9: 1 John 2

Dec. 4 – Daniel 10-12: 1 John 3

Dec. 5 – Hosea 1-3: 1 John 4

Dec. 6 – Hosea 4-6: 1 John 5

Dec. 7 – Hosea 7-8: 2 John

Dec. 8 – Hosea 9-10: 3 John

Dec. 9 – Hosea 11-12: Jude

Dec. 10 – Hosea 13-14: Revelation 1

Dec. 11 – Joel 1-3: Revelation 2

Dec. 12 – Amos 1-2: Revelation 3

Dec. 13 – Amos 3-4: Revelation 4

Dec. 14 – Amos 5-7: Revelation 5

Dec. 15 – Amos 8-9: Revelation 6

Dec. 16 – Obadiah: Revelation 7

Dec. 17 – Jonah 1-4: Revelation 8

Dec. 18 – Micah 1-2: Revelation 9

Dec. 19 – Micah 3-4: Revelation 10

Dec. 20 – Micah 5-7: Revelation 11

Dec. 21 – Nahum 1-3: Revelation 12

Dec. 22 – Habakkuk 1-3: Revelation 13

Dec. 23 – Zephaniah 1-3: Revelation 14

Dec. 24 – Haggai 1-2: Revelation 15

Dec. 25 – Zechariah 1-3: Revelation 16

Dec. 26 – Zechariah 4-5: Revelation 17

Dec. 27 – Zechariah 6-8: Revelation 18

Dec. 28 – Zechariah 9-11: Revelation 19

Dec. 29 – Zechariah 12-14: Revelation 20

Dec. 30 – Malachi 1-2: Revelation 21

Dec. 31 – Malachi 3-4: Revelation 22

# **December Birthdays!**

01 Frances Boan  
02 Sue Ann Mitchell  
Gerald Wilder  
03 Sandra Coker  
04 Myrtle Riggs  
05 Peggy Humphrey  
06 Anna Kay Finley  
Jeannie Mitchell  
07 Marion DuBose  
Marion Riggs  
08 Stacy Farley  
Martha Morris  
09 Karen Long  
10 Charles Thames  
Deana Wilder  
11 Slick Gibbons  
Caroline Hill  
Ray Langston  
Glenn Quattlebaum  
12 Ashley DuBose  
Hallie Harrington  
14 Debbie McIntosh  
Arrie Lee Raymond  
15 Marie Davids  
18 Megan Beatson  
Alice Dupont  
Pee Wee Mitchell  
Betty Strange  
19 Dorothy Barrett  
Rena Morrison  
21 Meri Hall  
Margaret McCoy  
Kevin Saengjunt  
23 Connor Miles  
Ellen Taylor  
27 Susan Ardis  
Holden Branham  
29 Lauren Stogner

30 Butch Wilkes  
31 Dianne Hodge  
Carol Thompson

## ***Welcome New Staff Member Winn Todd***

We would like to welcome Winn Todd into her new role as our Ministerial Assistant. She lives in Sumter and has been an active member of Great Commission Ministries for 20 years. She is the mother of two grown children, one grandson, and another grandbaby on the way.

## ***Look Who's in the News!!***

The Independent Community Bankers of America recently announced that FBC Manning member and community banker, Barry Ham was elected to the ICBA Federal Delegate Board. ICBA is the nation's voice for community banks. In addition to helping shape and advocate ICBA's national policy positions and programs, Barry's duties include being a liaison between independent community bankers in South Carolina and ICBA staff and leadership in Washington, D.C. He will also work to recruit new members to ICBA. ICBA Chairwoman Rebecca Romero Rainey said that Barry is "a dedicated community banker who is respected by his industry peers. We are delighted he will be generously offering his time and valuable professional talents to the service of the community banking industry."

**Congratulations Barry!**

## Upcoming Events

### Sunday, December 3

9:15 am Donuts with Deacons  
9:45 am Bible Study  
11:00 am Worship Service  
5:00 pm Children's Choir  
6:00 pm Evening Service  
6:00 pm RA/GA/Youth on Mission  
7:00pm Trustee Meeting

### Tuesday, December 5

7:30 am Men's Breakfast at Shoney's

### Wednesday, December 6

10:00 am Wed AM Bible Study  
6:00 pm Prayer Meeting  
7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

### Sunday December 10

9:45 am Bible Study  
11:00 am Worship Service  
4:00 pm Finance Meeting  
5:00 pm Church Council Meeting  
5:00 pm Children's Choir  
6:00 pm Evening Service  
6:00 pm RA/GA/Youth on Missions  
7:00 pm Adult Christmas Program

### Tuesday, December 12

6:00 pm Praying Hands

### Wednesday, December 13

10:00 am Wed AM Bible Study  
6:00 pm Children's Christmas Program  
7:00 pm Covered Dish

### Saturday, December 16

Parent's Night Out

### Sunday, December 17

9:45 am Bible Study  
11:00 am Worship Service  
5:00 pm Children's Choir  
6:00 pm Evening Service  
6:00 pm RA/GA/Youth on Missions

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## **WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE**

Bible Study.....9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship Service.....11:00 am  
Evening Worship Service .....6:00 pm  
Prayer Meeting – Wednesday Night..... 6:00 pm

First Baptist Church  
49 West Boyce Street  
Manning, SC 29102

### Wednesday, December 20

10:00 am Wed AM Bible Study  
6:00 pm Business Meeting  
7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

### Sunday, December 24

Thanksgiving Day – Church Office Closed

### Monday, December 25

#### **Christmas**

Church Office Closed

### Tuesday, December 26

Church Office Closed

### Wednesday, December 27

10:00 am Wed AM Bible Study  
6:00 pm Prayer Meeting  
7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

### Sunday, December 31

9:45 am Bible Study  
11:00 am Worship Service  
No Evening Activities

  
*Christmas*  
  
*Blessings*  
from the  
*Church Staff*

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## **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

Dr. Phillip Reynolds.....Pastor  
Mr. Lee Stogner.....Worship Leader  
Mrs. Becky Thomas.....Financial Secretary/Administrator  
Ms. Winn Todd.....Receptionist/Admin. Assistant  
Mrs. Kathy Gatlin.....Organist  
Mrs. Heather Hawkins.....Pianist  
Mr. Joseph Conyers.....Custodian  
Mr. Franklin Brown.....Maintenance  
Mrs. Wendy Hill.....Preschool Director  
Mrs. Annette Canty.....Housekeeper

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