

*THE* FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

# *ILLUMINATOR*

"Ye are the LIGHT of the world." Matthew 5:14

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NO. 44



## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX DEDICATION SERVICE**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 11:00 A.M.**

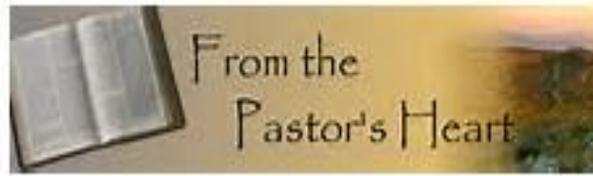
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## **THANKSGIVING DINNER**

**Sunday, November 19, 6:00 P.M.**

Church will provide meat, rolls and drinks.  
Please bring salad, vegetable or dessert.



This Sunday I will continue my sermon series on people in the Bible who chose to "Run Away" with part 7, "**Running Away Backwards**". Backwards? What do you mean? Most people think of running away as *getting away from the problems of life and going towards a better life*. Who would want to run away from the good things God has in store for them only to go back to the old life with all its troubles? But that is what happens in our story this Sunday.

This is what I call running away backwards. It is similar to our term "backslidden", which implies a person slips up and finds himself wandering from God. Except, in this case, the backsliding is an intention choice people make. Why? There may be many reasons a believer chooses to go back to the old life, but in our story Sunday, the people choose to run backwards out of fear and lack of trust in the power of God.

When things get tough, even as a believer serving God's will, there is a temptation to give up and to return to the old life. Many people, when they are afraid and discouraged, would rather go back to the old life of bondage they were used to rather than face new challenges in which they must totally trust God with everything. It all comes down to a choice: comfort and security versus walking by faith.

Which do you choose? Are you running away backwards? I hope you will come this Sunday and hear what God has to say to us from His word. If you are unable to come, tune in live on our local FM radio station 103.9, or go to their website [www.1039thebulldog.com](http://www.1039thebulldog.com) and listen live. But I would rather see you in person in Sunday School and worship. So, I'll be looking for your face (and the rest of you too). I love you and pray for you!

**Bro. Tony**

[Tony.Brown@whitesburgfbc.org](mailto:Tony.Brown@whitesburgfbc.org)



**NOVEMBER 11**



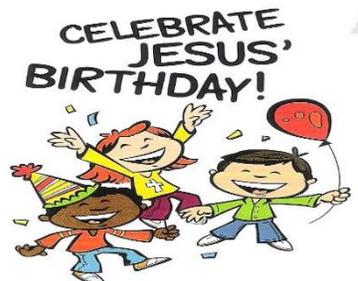
Hey church family, don't forget about these children, Ignite, and family activities coming up soon:

- **Operation Christmas Child Children's Lock-In:** Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:00 P.M. Open to all children; preschoolers must be accompanied by an adult. The Shoebox Collection Week is November 13-20 and this is a great opportunity for families to serve together.
- **Thanksgiving Fellowship:** Sunday, November 19, 6:00 P.M. Bring a side dish or a dessert; the church will provide the meats, drinks and bread.
- **Thanksgiving Service:** Tuesday, November 21, 6:00 P.M.
- **Birthday Party for Jesus:** Friday, December 1, 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. For children 3 years old through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Please pre-register via our website or mobile app.
- **Ignite Gift Exchange and trip to Jenny Wiley Theater:** Friday, December 8, starts at 5:00 P.M. at the church. Bring a \$10 gift for the exchange and \$13 for the ticket to "A Christmas Carol" (scholarships available if needed), dinner will be provided. For 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

If you have any questions about any of these activities, please be sure to let me know.

In Christ,  
**Jeremy**  
2 Timothy 1:6-7

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 5:30 – 8:00 P.M.**  
(3 year-olds through 4<sup>th</sup> Grade)



Every year our church starts roaring with a flurry of activities. Beginning on November 12<sup>th</sup>, our church begins collecting and packaging shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. On November 19<sup>th</sup>, our church sits down together for our annual Thanksgiving dinner. Immediately following Thanksgiving, we begin lighting the candles of Advent each week leading up to Christmas Eve. Then every Sunday evening in December, there will be a special Christmas service. To say we are busy would be an understatement, but our prayer through this flurry of activity is to focus on Christ and share His message with those around us. Pray that His word will be revealed to those in need.

If you would like to be in a drama for the Christmas cantata, please let Saranell or Tessa know.

### **SCHEDULE**

- November 12: Children's Choir – 6:00 P.M.  
Adult Choir – 7:00 P.M.
- November 19: No Children's Choir or Adult Choir Practice
- December 3: Children's Choir Practice – 5:00 P.M.  
Youth Christmas Variety Show – 6:00 P.M.
- December 6: Adult Choir Practice – 8:00 P.M.
- December 9: Children's Choir Practice – 9:00 A.M.
- December 10: *Star of Wonder* – Children's Play and Musical – 6:00 P.M.  
Church-wide Christmas Fellowship immediately following
- December 11: Adult Choir Practice – 6:00 P.M.
- December 14: Adult Choir Practice – 6:00 P.M.
- December 17 – *Sing Gloria* Play and Cantata – 6:00 P.M.

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### **GOD OF THE HUMDRUM**

If God is not in your typewriter as well as your hymnbook, there is something wrong with your religion.

If God does not enter your kitchen, there is something wrong with your kitchen.

If you can't take God into your recreation, there is something wrong with your play.

If God for you does not smile, there is something wrong with your idea of God.

We all believe in the God of the heroic. What we need most these days is the God of the humdrum – the commonplace, the everyday.

--Peter Marshall



Our youth will be assisting with sorting and packaging shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child during the week of November 12-19. This is a great opportunity for our youth to participate in a local outreach effort to share the gospel throughout the world. Come out with your son or daughter and make a family night of it.

If you signed up for the *Crowder Concert* on November 16<sup>th</sup>, your ticket has been purchased. Your ticket was \$20, please bring that to the church office or get it to me or Jeremy as soon as possible. We will leave from the church parking lot at 4:30 and stop for a quick dinner at a fast food restaurant. You will need money for your ticket and your meal.

The cost for Winter Xtreme this year is \$120. The first deposit of \$30 was due November 5<sup>th</sup>. If you missed it, you can still drop your deposit off at the church office. The second deposit of \$30 will be due on November 19<sup>th</sup>, third deposit on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the final deposit of \$30 due on December 17<sup>th</sup>. As always, if you need assistance please let us know.

We will be singing in the foyer of Food City on December 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:00 P.M. If anyone would like to join us, come on out and sing with us. Last year Brother Tommy Stansberry joined in and the youth loved it. If you have anyone you would like for us to visit and sing carols, just let us know.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS

*November 12*

*Shaun Mynster, Linda Bentley*

*November 19*

*Philip & Julie Bentley*

## YOUTH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- November 15: Instead of Youth Bible Study we will be helping with Operation Christmas Child
- November 16: Crowder American Prodigal Tour – UVA Wise, \$20
- November 22: Thanksgiving Break – No Bible study
- December 3: Youth Christmas Variety Show
- December 20: Christmas Caroling at Food City
- December 27: No Bible Study
- December 29-31: Winter Xtreme - \$120

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The sweet old man always seemed to be in good humor. One day, a curious young man asked why he was always so happy. "Well," the kindly man replied, "it is because I know when I get up in the morning, I have two choices. I can choose to be happy or I can choose to be unhappy. I try to choose happiness each day. Hopefully that is reflected on my face and in my actions.

What did you choose this morning?



### SHOEBOX DEDICATION

Sunday, November 12, 11:00 A.M.



### SHOEBOX COLLECTION WEEK

November 13 – 20

## AWANA CHRISTMAS STORE

Our Awana kids will soon have the opportunity to use the points they have earned towards Christmas gifts for their family members. Perhaps you can provide some new or gently used items for this store. Suggested items include:

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Wallets         | Purses             |
| Jewelry         | Small Tools        |
| Keepsake Boxes  | Belts              |
| Lotions         | Sports memorabilia |
| Christmas Candy | Sports Equipment   |
| Small toys      | Books              |
| DVDs            | Hats               |
| Gloves          | Scarves            |

If you are able to help, please drop items off by December 6<sup>th</sup> (at the church office or give to Jeremy or Angie). We will also need help wrapping gifts on the night of December 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:00 P.M.



Thursday, November 16, 11:30 A.M.

Church Fellowship Hall

## GIVING THANKS FOR ALL THINGS

It's easy to list the blessings in life: good health, family, a satisfying career, a comfortable home. We might even be thankful for things others take for granted, such as freedom, clean drinking water, reliable transportation and food enough to eat. Then there are the little things, such as gardens, sunrises, pets and coffee.

### Deacons Meeting



Saturday, November 18, 7:30 A.M.

What about life's storms or unanswered prayers? Should we be thankful for these? Loss and hardship remind us of our dependence on God. He uses trials to draw us closer to him, to show us that He is our rock and refuge. In misfortune and grief, we discover God's comfort and strength. Should we not, then, be thankful for the storms, too?



## **FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

SANDY BANKS  
In Memory Of  
JACKSON BANKS

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The FBC staff and church family extends love and sympathy to MAKAYLA HOUSE and family in the death of her cousin, LILY REYNOLDS; SARANELL CAUDILL and family in the death of her brother-in-law, HAROLD CLAYTOR; and NINA FIELDS and family in the death of her sister, WILMA MORGAN KILBURN.

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**Tuesday, November 21, 6:00 P.M.**  
**(Regular Wednesday night activities cancelled.)**

## **EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS**

**Nov. 12**  
Pam Pratt, Holly Caudill

**Nov. 19**  
Laura Whitaker, Liz Sergent

## **PRESCHOOL WORSHIP**

**Nov. 12**  
Deanna Higgs

**Nov. 19**  
Becca & Calviston Cook

## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH WORKERS**

**Nov. 12**  
Saranell Caudill, Margaret Fisher,  
Rita Broome

**Nov. 19**  
Donna & Mike Watts, Eleanor Caudill

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Nov. 12: Sonny Frazier  
14: Doug Frazier  
15: Patsy Nantz  
16: Noah Triplett  
17: Heidi Bentley  
18: Lindsay Hart, Charlotte Holbrook

## LAST SUNDAY'S STATISTICS

Sunday School -----	114
Adults --	75
Youth --	21
Children --	14
Preschool --	4
Morning Worship -----	164

## SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Housing Authority -----	
Letcher Manor -----	
AWANA/IGNITE/YOUTH -----	121
Children: 83	Adults: 38

## ADDITIONS TO DATE

(September – August)

By Baptism -----	1
By Letter -----	0
By Statement -----	1
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS -----</b>	<b>2</b>

## TOTAL RECEIPTS

Budget Receipts -----	\$7,976.00
Budget Requirement -----	\$ 7,171.00
Family Life Center -----	\$ 375.00
Designated -----	\$ 119.00
Budget Required to Date -----	\$319,995.00
Budget to Date -----	\$290,600.20

## IN THE HOSPITAL

MOLLIE CAUDILL, Local ARH  
 GERALD HACKER, Good Sam.  
 JAMES REYNOLDS, Florida

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## FAMILY LIFE CENTER

**TOTAL NEEDED – PHASE 2**  
 \$500,000.00

**GIVEN TO DATE**  
 \$427,007.00

**NEEDED**  
 \$72,993.00

## DEACON OF THE WEEK

**November 12 - 18**

**FRED HALL**