

*THE* FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

# *ILLUMINATOR*

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

**VOL. LIV**

**DECEMBER 20, 2017, WHITESBURG, KY 41858**

**NO. 49**



## *THE NATIVITY*

*Presented By*

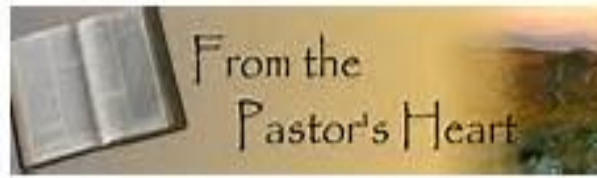
**FBC DRAMA TEAM**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 24, 11:00 A.M.**

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5:00 P.M.**



Merry Christmas from the staff of Whitesburg FBC. On Christmas Eve we invite you to come and worship the New Born King. On Sunday morning we will worship through music, drama, and the Word. That night we will have a special Christmas Eve service at 5:00 P.M. Bring the whole family and invite your friends.

Remember to give to the *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions*. The Lottie Moon Mailbox is still open for those who want to give Christmas cards to those here in the church. Just bring your Christmas cards with the recipients' names on the envelope and drop them in the mailbox. Then drop the cost of a stamp in the little church out front and the money will go to missions.

On behalf of my family, we wish you *Merry Christmas* and a *Happy 2018*. We love you.

**Pastor Tony, Carol, Robert, & Bethany Brown**

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

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## **WE CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTH**

Dear Lord, as we celebrate your birth,  
Let us remember that You are the true reason for Christmas.  
Let every sparkling light remind us how You illuminate our lives,  
a shining beacon to guide us in our thoughts and actions each day,  
and how You light us from within in the knowledge of Your love and truth.  
Let the Christmas trees, standing straight, tall, unbowed,  
remind us of Your uprightness, Your goodness, Your perfection  
and Your refusal to bow to worldly temptations,  
no matter how great the challenge or trouble.  
Lord, as we feast on Christmas treats,  
let us remember that You are the sole provider of everything worth having,  
that all good things come from You.  
and as we enjoy our gifts, let us never  
that You are the greatest gift of all - our wonderful Savior, Counselor,  
Giver of an eternal life whose wonders we cannot imagine.  
So, as we delight in Christmas, the happiest and brightest of holidays,  
let us remember there would be no Christmas without You, Lord,  
and let our hearts be filled with joy, and love and thankfulness,  
this Christmas and all the ones to come.  
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



***"We love because he first loved us."*** I John 4:19

Christmas has always been a favorite time of year for me. For as long as I can remember, it has served as a time of joy and family get-togethers. A time when day-to-day stressors and worries are forgotten for a little while and replaced with peace and goodwill. This joy and peace was magnified after I received Jesus as my Savior and Lord – I finally understood what the celebration should be about and how incredible the birth of that baby was and is.

Merry Christmas to my family at Whitesburg First Baptist. You are a blessing to me and my family and I am grateful that I get to serve with you. I am grateful that my children are loved by this church and I am blessed to be able to partner with so many parents in the spiritual development of their kids.

I am praying that 2018 will find our congregation being more intentional in sharing God's love with others, that we will be used more and more by God in bringing the lost to Him. God loves us and demonstrates that love in incredible ways; may we do our best to show love to each other and serve God as he desires.

Christmas blessings,

**Jeremy**

Prov. 27:17

### **CHILDREN'S SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER**

There will not be children's activities on Wednesday and Sunday nights for the remainder of December. Awana will begin again on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Remember, if school is cancelled due to the weather, we will not have Awana.

We will not have Children's Church or Preschool Worship on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to our Wednesday night prayer meetings and Sunday night worship services.

### **IGNITE SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER**

Ignite will not meet on Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to our Wednesday night prayer meetings and Sunday night worship services.





*May the wondrous joy of this season remind you of Him who is truly worthy of all our praise!*

*We're wishing you the precious gift of faith, the true blessings of hope and the peace of His love at Christmas time and every day.*

*Jesus is the reason for the season, let's continue remembering that and have a bless filled New Year!*

*May your heart be filled with happiness this joyful holiday event brings.*

*It is our greatest wish that merriest Christmas and a fantastic New Year, for you and your family.*

### **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUR CHURH STAFF**

*Rev. Tony Brown  
Regina Brown  
Carol Brown  
Rhonda Triplett*

*Rev. Jeremy Horn  
Brenda Cook  
Jimmy Sergent  
Liz Sergent*



**H**old fast to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)  
**A**ssemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)  
**P**ray earnestly every day (1 Thess. 5:17-18)  
**P**ray for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)  
**Y**ield not to temptation (1 Thess. 5:22)

**N**eglect not your talents and opportunities (Galatians 6:10)  
**E**xamine yourself daily (2 Cor. 13:5)  
**W**ork diligently for the Lord (! Cor. 15:58)

**Y**ield your members to righteousness (Romans 6:11, 16)  
**E**xercise yourself in godliness (1 Timothy 4:7)  
**A**im for a perfect, mature faith (Hebrews 6:1)  
**R**edeem the time (Ephesians 5:15-16)

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- Dec. 26: Joy Adams
- 27: Missy Caudill
- 28: Ozz Jackson, Trey Narramore
- 29: Jace Stambaugh
- 31: Donna Fleming
- Jan. 1: Una Cook, Alice Lucas, Mark Miracle, Austin Polly
- 2: Lloyd Mullins, Sue Parks
- 3: Albert Ison, Jr., Malachi Longworth
- 5: Joe Jenks, Holly Caudill
- 6: Ritter Lucas



CHURCH GOAL ----- \$2,500.00  
 GIVEN TO DATE ----- \$ 1,259.00

In Loving Memory Of

**HERBERT CLAY CAUDILL**

May 19, 1929–December 17, 2017

## RECIPE FOR CHRISTMAS ALL YEAR LONG

Take a heap of child-like wonder  
 That opens up our eyes  
 To the unexpected gifts in life---  
 Each day a sweet surprise.

Mix in fond appreciation  
 For the people whom we know;  
 Like festive Christmas candles,  
 Each one has a special glow.

Add some giggles and some laughter,  
 A dash of Christmas food,  
 (Amazing how a piece of pie  
 Improve our attitude!)

Stir it all with human kindness;  
 Wrap it up in love and peace,  
 Decorate with optimism, and  
 Our joy will never cease.

If we use this healthy recipe,  
 We know we will remember  
 To be in the Christmas spirit,  
 Even when it's not December.

--Joanna Fuchs

The Magic of  
*Christmas*  
 is not in the presents  
 but in *His*   
 presence



*"You stepped down from heaven  
Humbly you came  
God of all creation, Here with us  
In a star lit manger, Emmanuel  
Light of the world, here to save*

*Adore, Come let us  
Adore, Come let us  
Adore, Come let us  
Adore Him, the Lord  
Worship Christ, the Lord  
Let all that is within us adore."*

On Christmas Eve, during the morning worship service, our Drama Team will present, **"The Nativity"**, the story of the birth of Jesus through the eyes of those that were in attendance! Please come out and join us as we hear the most amazing birth retold through drama and music.

On the evening of Christmas eve at 5:00 P.M., we will have a special service. Come and join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

### SCHEDULE

Dec. 24 - **"The Nativity"** - 11:00 A.M.  
Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service, 5:00 P.M.  
Jan. 7 - Choir practice following evening worship



**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 AND MONDAY, JANUARY 1 FOR THE HOLIDAYS.**

**THERE WILL BE NO ILLUMINATOR NEXT WEEK.**

Our youth will be leaving for *Winter Xtreme* in Gatlinburg on Friday, December 29, at 10:00 A.M. from the church parking lot. *Chris Tomlin, Hollyn, 7<sup>th</sup> Time Down, Andy Mineo, Newsboys, and Newsong* will be leading us in worship. Please be in prayer for our youth and leaders as we attend this conference.

If your son/daughter is signed up to go, they will need money for seven meals and any other items they wish to purchase. Remember that the \$120 is due for the conference and that you must bring a completed medical release form before boarding the van,

### SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS

*December 24  
Regina Brown, Tracie Day*

*December 31  
Victoria & Michael Watts*

### YOUTH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 27 - No Bible Study  
Dec. 29-31: Winter Xtreme - \$120

### Come Back to Christmas

When January comes along, we can continue that sense of comfort and warmth that comes at Christmas by returning to the Christmas story, which gives us two great promises: God understands you, and God can redeem you. I encourage people to make it a point to reread the Christmas story every month, and allow Christmas to be Christmas every month. We need to keep coming back to it.

--Max Lucado



**UNIFIED BUDGET**

MYREL & SHARON SHORT  
In Memory Of  
HELEN BENTLEY

GEORGE & BETTY KINCER  
In Memory Of  
HELEN BENTLEY  
BILLIE MARTIN  
GREG AMBURGEY  
ROGER WEBB  
VENSON CAUDILL

**FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

PHIL & LINDA BENTLEY  
In Memory Of  
GREG AMBURGEY

**LOTTIE MOON**

PAULINE RITTER  
In Memory Of  
JAMES & ATHA B CAUDILL



The FBC staff and church family extends love and sympathy to SALLY WEBB CAUDILL, MAE AMBURGEY and families in the death of their husband/brother, HERBERT CLAY CAUDILL; and to EMMA AMBURGEY and family in the death of her brother, PHILLIP Q. ADAMS.

**EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS**

**Dec. 24**  
Melissa Newell

**Dec. 31**  
Julie Bentley, Tiny Caudill

**Jan. 7**  
Pam Pratt, Holly Caudill

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**PRESCHOOL WORSHIP**

**Dec. 24**  
No Preschool Worship

**Dec. 31**  
Elisa Cook

**Jan. 7**  
Lee Adams

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**CHILDREN'S CHURCH WORKERS**

**Dec. 24**  
No Children's Worship

**Dec. 31**  
Donna & Mike Watts, Eleanor Caudill

**Jan. 7**  
Angie Horn, Tracie Day, Kathy Perry



## LAST SUNDAY'S STATISTICS

Sunday School ----- 122  
Adults -- 75  
Youth -- 16  
Children -- 21  
Preschool -- 10  
Morning Worship ----- 179

## SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Housing Authority -----  
Letcher Manor -----  
AWANA/IGNITE/YOUTH ----- 118  
Children: 81          Adults: 37

## ADDITIONS TO DATE

(September – August)

By Baptism ----- 3  
By Letter ----- 0  
By Statement ----- 1  
**TOTAL ADDITIONS ----- 4**

## TOTAL RECEIPTS

Budget Receipts ----- \$ 6,252.00  
Budget Requirement ----- \$ 7,171.00  
Family Life Center ----- \$ 275.00  
Designated ----- \$ 114.51  
Lottie Moon ----- \$ 419.00  
Budget Required to Date ----- \$363,021.00  
Budget to Date ----- \$330,225.21

## FAMILY LIFE CENTER

### TOTAL NEEDED – PHASE 2

\$500,000.00

### GIVEN TO DATE

\$428,542.00

### NEEDED

\$71,458.00

## DEACON OF THE WEEK

December 24 - 30

**KENDALL ISON**

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December 31 – January 6

**DENNIS WAYNE FLEMING**